The Middlebury Campus

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Rice visit lends insight to commons

Students, faculty travel to Texas to examine established residential system

By Matthew Potenza
Staff Writer

Four Middlebury students and three faculty and staff members travelled to Rice University in Austin, Texas last week to examine that school's residential system. Rice is divided into eight colleges. Each college is the equivalent of what Middlebury would call a "commons."

Of particular interest were Rice's implementation of decentralized dining, residential life and academic interaction between students and faculty. The Middlebury contingent hoped to gain insight into how Middlebury might use certain aspects of the Rice system in the creation of its own new system.

Decentralized dining figures heavily into the Rice system. Each college has a dining room and a "master," a faculty member who acts as a dean, lives within the commons and eats in a separate dining room adjacent to the commons dining facility. Out of the 600 faculty at Rice, only 200 are involved in the commons system. Dave Paul '00 noted that it seemed like a student "can't just wander over to the master's house." The master was available upon appointment or for emergency only.

"We learned a lot from the trip and I think we can profit from what the Rice model has to offer," said Middlebury Professor of American literature and civilization Tim Spears. "All members of the team pointed out both positive and negative aspects of the system."

The Middlebury team examined every aspect of student life at Rice ranging from academics to weekend social life. "I was impressed by the extent to which the students controlled their social lives," said Spears. He explained that the system allowed the students to control their money by paying for social events out of joint accounts they shared with the university.

Spears also commented that the students had a highly-articulated justice system in which they look out for one another and take charge of any social problems. The chief justice of the college court is responsible for enforcing all laws from alcohol policy to ticketing cars.

"There is a tremendous sense of community within the colleges," said Spears. "[The students] have a real sense of belonging. The worst thing that could happen to a student [at Rice] is to be kicked out of a commons."

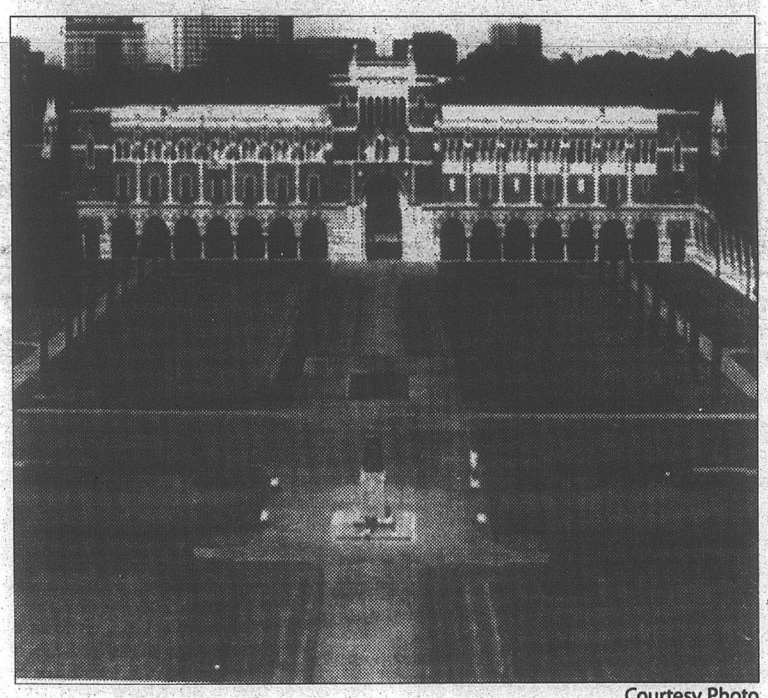
However, Spears noted that this sense of community did have negative effects on campus unity. "There seems to be no movement back and forth between [the] colleges."

Moreover, Spears said that the virtual segregation of students within their colleges has led to rivalries and negative competition between the residential units. "None of us would want to see that happen [at Middlebury]," said Spears.

Middining Director Peter Napolitano took issue with Rice's dining system. "Dining services at Rice are very different than Middlebury," said Napolitano. "Our goal is to produce the highest quality of food possible, with a focus on training our staff."

Napolitano went on to point out that Rice's dining staff is very poorly trained. Rice has a central kitchen from which food is sent to every college. Napolitano said he would not recommend this system

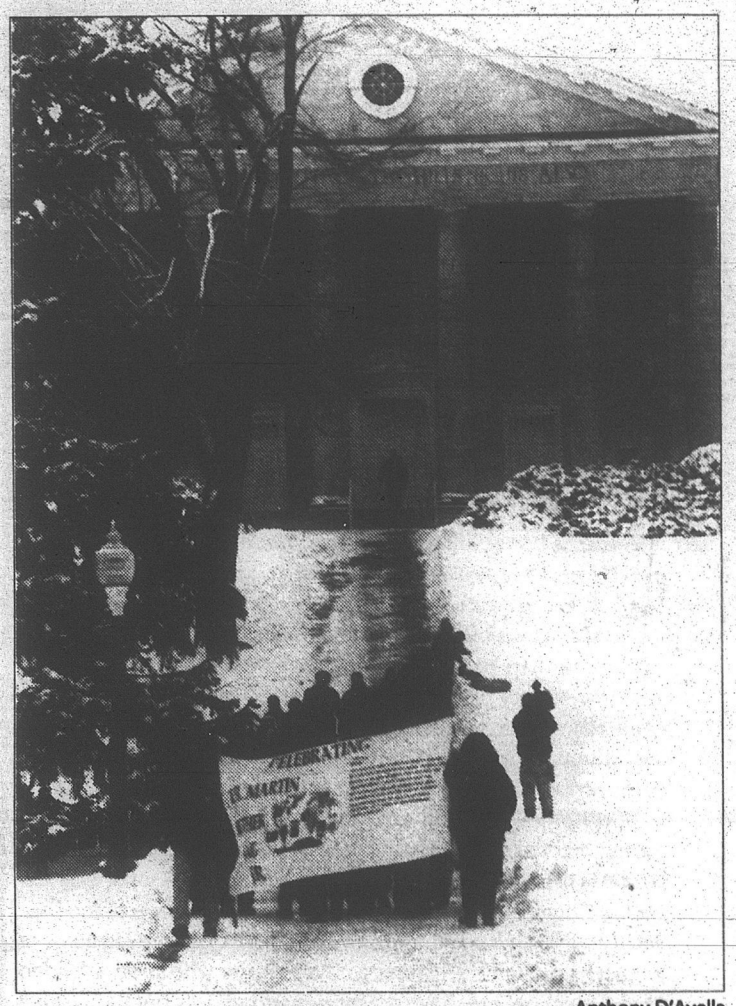
(see Rice, page 3)



Courtesy Photo

Rice University's campus is located in the heart of downtown Austin, Texas.

I have a dream!



Anthony D'Avella

Marching towards the Middlebury village green, *students, faculty and staff commemorated Martin Luther King Jr. Monday.*

Weld awarded prestigious NATO essay prize in D.C.

By Jennifer Jensen
News Editor

Earlier this month Tim Weld '98 was awarded the Atlantic Council's 1997 NATO Essay Prize for Excellence in Writing.

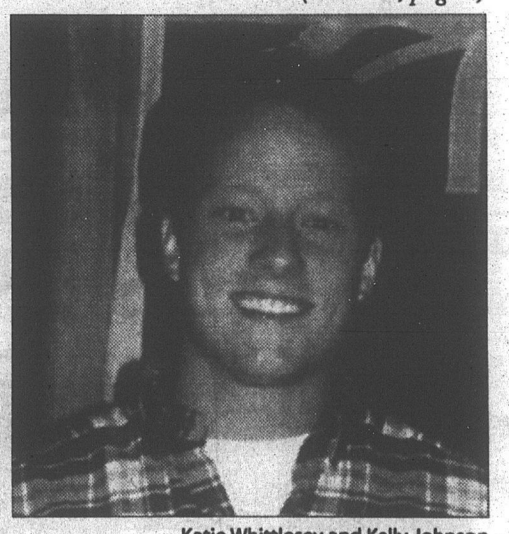
The prestigious and highly competitive contest is held annually for graduate and undergraduate students who express an interest in the future of transatlantic relations. Weld's first-place award for his essay on the future of the NATO won him a cash prize and a seat at the Atlantic Council's annual gala dinner in Washington, D.C.

The Atlantic Council of the United States (ACUS) is a non-profit public policy organization based in Washington, D.C. The council's primary purpose is to act as an educational organization which seeks to promote the importance of transatlantic and transpacific dialogue. According to the ACUS web page, "the council remains committed to enhancing U.S. initiative and leadership through sound and skillfully administered policies that identify and pursue national interests in a framework of global interdependence, and through the education of future leaders."

Contestants such as Weld must be nominated by a professor at one of the Atlantic Council's Academic Associate member institutions (Middlebury College is a member) in order to enter the Council's contest.

Weld had not intended on submitting an essay. "My essay was just a five and a half page paper for Professor Stanger's seminar on U.S. and European relations in the

(see Weld, page 2)



Katie Whittlesey and Kelly Johnson

Political science major Tim Weld '98 traveled to Washington D.C. to claim his prize.

Students face J-term registration woes

By Emily Manning
Opinions Editor

Zachery Becker '99 went to five Winter Term classes before he was finally admitted to Coral Reefs a day after the drop/add deadline. Junior John Felton's original class conflicted with his Community Council meetings. Visiting Professor Arnold Highfield's class ballooned from its limit of 20 students to 45 when he was bombarded with desperate phone calls. Another professor said that she received 22 voice mail messages and 11 email messages from students begging to be in her class.

"It was my first time seeing this," said Student Records Analyst Amy Knapp, referring to the Winter Term registration difficulties the Dean of Students Office has dealt with since early January. Knapp, who only started working at Middlebury this fall, said that she was amazed. "I thought: this is crazy."

"From my perspective, it seems students had more of a hard time getting into Winter Term classes than in previous years," said Dean of Students Ann Craig Hanson.

According to Director of Undergraduate Records Lucinda Belanger, this Winter Term registration process was especially hectic due to unpredictable circumstances, including more canceled classes than usual, the ice storm, schedule conflicts and excessive amounts of interest in a few select courses.

Associate Dean of Faculty Bethany Ladimer and Dean of Faculty Robert Schine were not available to comment on the faculty's perspective of the registration process.

"The main problem seemed to be that so many classes were canceled," said Becker, whose first choice class, Japanese Asceticism, was canceled due to the professor's illness. Belanger also attributed a large portion of the hectic Winter Term atmosphere the high rate of cancellations that occurred this year. As usual, about four classes were eliminated after round one due to low interest, but three other popular classes were eliminated after registration. According to Belanger, a more-than-usual amount of students were thrown back into the registration process.

Becker, who learned of the can-

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COLLEGE shorts

By Ben Block
Associate Editor

Sex survey reveals correlation between post-graduate study and lack of intimacy

Survey takes the "stud" out of student

A recent survey by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago shows that the amount of sex a person has is inversely related to the amount of education he or she has received. According to the study, which is based on interviews with more than 10,000 participants, people who have attended graduate school perform, on average, 50 sexual acts per year; graduates of four-year colleges average 56; people with some college education average 62 acts per year, while high school graduates perform roughly 58 sexual acts a year.

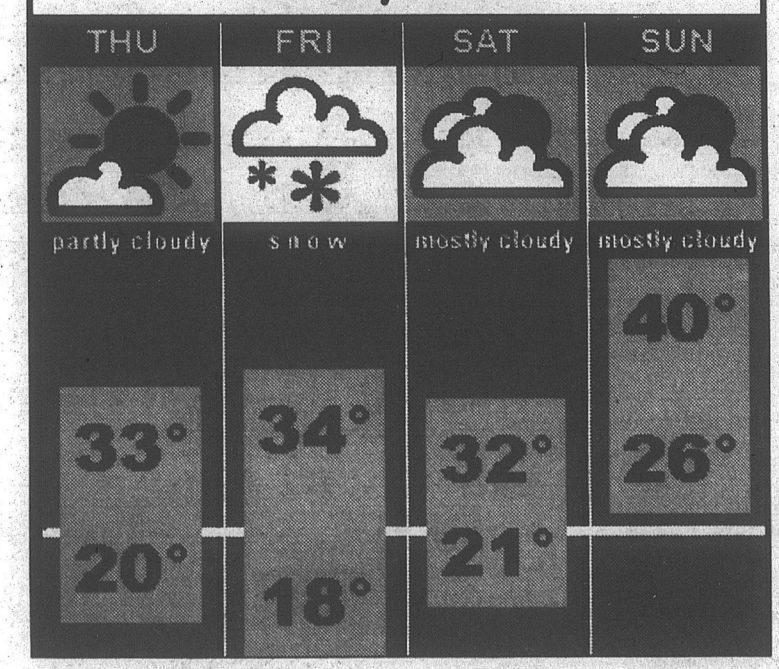
"Greater educational attainment is usually associated with greater participation in all kinds of activities, from attending concerts to mountain climbing. Sex, however, is a surprising exception," state the authors of the study, John Robinson of the University of Maryland at College Park, and Geoffrey Godbey, of Pennsylvania State University. "Americans who have attended graduate school may have the money and smarts, but they report being the least sexually active educational group in the population," say the authors. "This pattern is true for both men and women, and it persists after age, work hours, and other factors are statistically controlled."

The study made some other interesting findings. For example, jazz enthusiasts are 30 percent more sexually active than the average person. Those who work more than 60 hours per week are roughly 10 percent more sexually active than other workers. Sexual activity is highest among people describing themselves as "extreme liberals", who own guns, or who lack confidence in the president.

On the religious front, people who identify themselves as Roman Catholics are slightly more sexually active than Protestants. Both groups, however, are roughly 20 percent less active than those who identify themselves as Jewish or agnostic.

Source: *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

Four day forecast



Courtesy of Intellicast at http://www.intellicast.com

SGA debates Olinick-Pack proposal

By Mary Tucker
Staff Writer

Professor of Mathematics Michael Olinick, a co-drafter of nine initiatives which would radically alter the face of residential life at Middlebury College, appeared before Sunday's SGA assembly to assess student support of his groups contentious ideals.

Olinick, along with Professor Robert Pack, heads a body of concerned faculty members that hopes to garner support to amend radically President McCardell's proposed residential life initiative.

The group's nine initiatives, which range from reconsidering the role of social houses and athletics to decentralized dining, are the fruits of several meetings which have been held over the course of the last few months.

"We know these proposals don't address everything," said Olinick, "but we assume other groups will come up with additional proposals. Our hope is that we will be able to vote on these nine proposals at the February [faculty] meeting, [anonymously]."

Olinick's presentation to the SGA assembly was the first time the student body has been officially extended the opportunity to respond to the group's initiatives. Many members of the SGA took issue with the first item in the Olinick-Pack proposal which Olinick agrees suggests the controversial elimination of the social houses.

"Proposal number one is to eliminate social houses as we know them now, as exclusive organizations," said Olinick. "Residential units should have academic themes."

This discussion especially angered Paul Rosenthal '98, former president of KDR, who felt strongly that social houses at Middlebury have much more to offer than just all-campus parties on Friday and Saturday nights. According to Rosenthal, social houses foster a sense of community and responsibility among their members.

"Social houses are an important part of the Middlebury community and I think they already have the things that the commons system is trying to create," said Rosenthal.

The SGA was also concerned with proposal number nine, which questions Middlebury's balance of sports and academics. Olinick believes that the current emphasis on athletics often forces students compromise their academic work out of necessity. This burden, said Olinick, does not fit with the academic mission of the college.

"There should be a support [within the commons system] of academic interest houses, including language houses, and houses for minority students to gain positive self images," said Olinick. Repeatedly, Olinick reaffirmed his desire to enact a commons system which has an academic focus, not a social one.

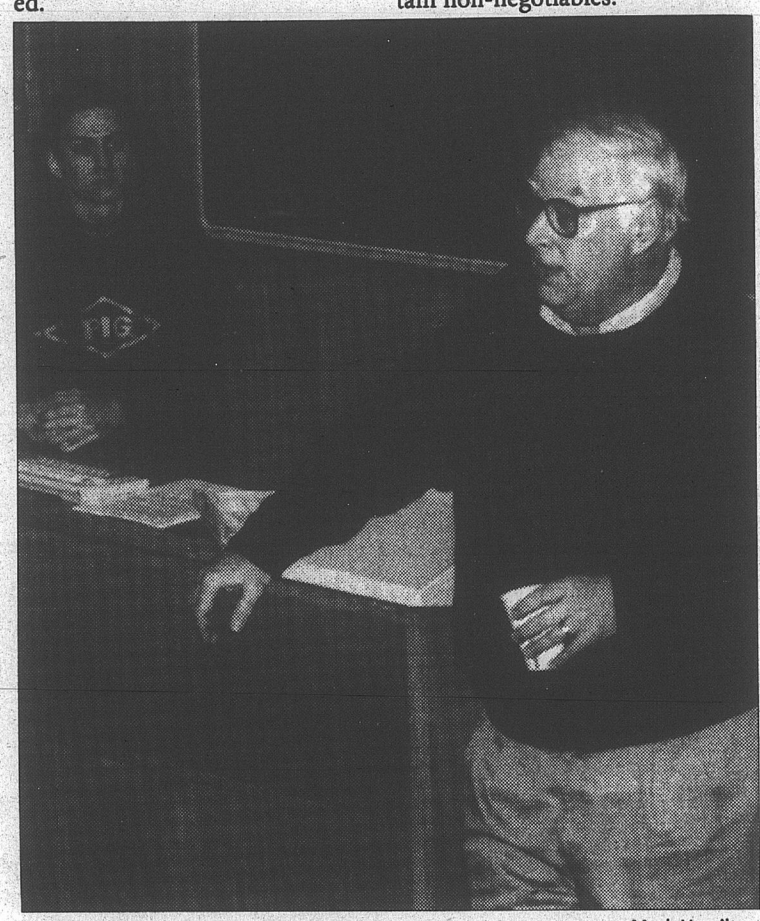
While Olinick objects to the residential life proposal at hand, he also conceded a need for change. "Things won't look the same in 2098 that they do in 1998; things will naturally evolve," said Olinick.

"We could just not care about what students do, about where they live after class. But Middlebury is a residential liberal arts college and that's not what we're about."

The Pack-Olinick proposal arose from a group of 28 tenured faculty members concerned that by the adoption of McCardell's proposed three "defining characteristics" of residential life discussion of the college's fundamental objectives would be strictly limited.

According to the group, McCardell's three objectives are emblematic of limited nature of the decision making process at Middlebury college.

"We had a concern that major decisions were not being done by a consensus," said Olinick. "The commons system proposal sees to be the latest evidence of this trend. We felt that we really should have an open agenda and many people felt disturbed that there were certain non-negotiables."



Mark Hamilton

Sunday, the SGA debated Professor Olinick's nine residential life initiatives.

Weld awarded prestigious NATO essay prize in D.C.

(continued from page 1)

fall. She said I did a good job on it and had me submit it to this contest that she had heard about," said Weld.

Coincidentally, Weld's paper for his political science seminar corresponded well with the theme of this year's NATO Essay Prize. Weld submitted his essay before the Winter vacation.

Soon after his return, he received a phone call informing him that he had won the first-place prize. Weld's response was simply, "oh, really."

The award is a great honor despite Weld's humble response. Weld's acceptance of the NATO essay prize marks a significant achievement on his part. Although Weld was eligible for the contest, it is astonishing that an undergraduate student from Middlebury College has won the prize. It is an extremely competitive contest which presents immense opportunities to the winner. The majority of the contestants are typically Ph.D. or masters students, or students from Ivy League universities. Last year's recipient of the award was a Ph.D. student from Columbia University.

Weld's trip to the Atlantic Council's Gala (the organization's annual benefit dinner) in Washington is a once- in-a lifetime opportunity. The dinner is a $200-a-plate fund-raiser for the Atlantic Council, and many dignitaries are expected to be present at the event.

"Professor Stanger claims that there is going to be some very important people [at the Gala]. I don't know exactly who's going to be there, but I do know that the letterhead of the Atlantic Council contains some really impressive names," said Weld.

Despite the organization's nonprofit status, virtually every director has served in the government. The board contains such notable figures as Richard B. Wallace, W. Randolph Burgess and Susan Eisenhower, to name a few.

Weld sat at the Gala's head table, and received his award from none other than former Secretary of State William Perry on Tuesday night.

Weld will also have the opportunity to meet with important individual's in congress concerning his thesis on Cuban relations with the United States during his weeklong stay in the capital.

Jeffrey Casson, professor of political science and Weld's advisor, claimed that "Tim is one those students who has shown remarkable intellectual growth in his four years at Middlebury." Although the NATO prize could possibly provide some interesting job opportunities for Weld, he has stated he has "already found a job with an investment banking firm and is glad to be finished with cover letters and resumes."

Ridgeline Woods houses open doors to residents

By Stefanie Koperniak
Staff Writer

After months of construction, three new social houses — Prescott, Brackett and Palmer — have been completed in the Ridgeline Woods area. The new houses are named for trustees of the college. This month, Alpha Delta Phi (ADP) will move into Prescott House and Omega Alpha (Tavern) will relocate in Brackett House. Zeta Theta Phi (Zoo) has already begun its move into Palmer House.

According to Wendy Russell, assistant director of Residential Life, there have been some delays in the building and preparation of the houses and therefore the schedule for moving students into the houses has had to be pushed back slightly.

"We had been planning to get everyone [into the houses] in January," Russell said, "but we thought it would be earlier [in the month]." Despite the delays, however, students will move into their new accommodations throughout this month.

Approximately 20 Zeta Theta Phi members currently live in Palmer House, and more will move in at the beginning of the spring semester.

The next house to be occupied will be Brackett, beginning next week. Prescott will be occupied during the final week of Winter term.

Russell described the new houses as "amazing" and said that the members of the social houses were "excited about moving into a new space." The houses are each equipped with a large fireplace, social space and living room.

This month ADP will move into Prescott House and Omega Alpha (Tavern) will relocate in Brackett House.

Describing the amount of input the social house members had in creating their new residences, Russell said, "each social house worked with the architects to plan what they wanted for their individual house."

Although Russell described the overall process of moving into the house as smooth, there have been some complications in the new houses.

For example, there were initial difficulties with the telephone system in the houses. Additionally, there is still no parking space available in the area. Lighting for all of the pathways near the houses has

(see Ridgeline, page 4)

Mark Hamilton

Movers transported the belongings of Tavern social house members during Tuesday's move to Brackett House.

Habitat exceeds $5000 goal at auction

By Scott Cacciola
Staff Writer

Habitat for Humanity reached their fund-raising record at the second annual Silent Art Auction this past Saturday night when over $1,400 was raised by the sale of student donated works. The event was part of a two-year, $5,000 goal to fund a house in Huntington, VT.

The auction featured 33 student-donated works ranging in everything from photographs to original music scores and hand-knitted hats. The highlight of the auction was a generous donation of two works by studio art professor and renowned artist David Bumbeck. Bumbeck's works, which would normally fetch a price of approximately $800, sold for the bargain price of $125 and $200.

The auction featured 33 student-donated works ranging from photographs to original music scores.

"I was very happy to donate my work for a fine humanitarian cause," commented Professor Bumbeck. "I will certainly do it again next year if the organization decides to hold another auction."

Students milled about, musing quietly over the high quality artwork during the two-hour duration of the silent auction. A classical quintet and a spread of hors d'oeuvres contributed to the classy atmosphere of the event, making it truly a unique social engagement for students, faculty and staff.

Suwha Hong '98 and Jennifer Jensen '98.5, co-chairs of Middlebury's college chapter of Habitat, were very thankful for the assistance of the Studio Arts Department.

"We sent out letters to Studio Art Majors and Minors asking if they would be willing to donate works. Everyone was very generous, and the evening worked out extremely well," remarked Hong.

"We raised more money in this fund-raiser than we have in any other activity so far this year," said Jensen. Habitat for Humanity is planning on making the auction an annual event due to the success and popularity of the silent auction over the past two years.

The funds raised at the auction topped the organization's co-sponsorship goal of $5,000. The auction was only one of many

(see Habitat, page 4)

Literacy workshop enrolls record numbers

By Elana Wilson
Staff Writer

Student organizers of the Page One Literacy Project expected a maximum of 20 students would be interested in spending their Winter Term experience learning to read to children. To the pleasant surprise of program directors Julia Shreve '98 and Abby Stoller '00, more than 50 students have enrolled in a community service workshop designed to help promote literacy in the Middlebury community.

Shreve and Stoller began researching the needs of community literacy organizations last summer. They discovered that the groups lacked volunteers as well as technological and financial resources. The pair developed the idea of a workshop to remedy these problems.

The workshop marks Page Ones's first mass volunteer effort. Participants read at various libraries, day care centers and elementary schools in the Middlebury area.

Stoller believes that the volunteer effort "shows kids that reading is valuable" and can foster an interest in life long reading and learning.

Co-organizer Shreve stated that reading aloud to children can "open children's worlds to greater possibilities and inspire them."

Although the workshop only arranged volunteer opportunities for the month of January, many volunteers have plans to establish a continuing relationship with community schools and family centers.

Leslie Fox '01, a volunteer at the Bristol Family Center, was impressed by the children's "responsiveness, curiosity and questioning interest in reading." Fox plans to return every Thursday for the remainder of the school year.

Page One, in conjunction with many campus groups, has also raised money to meet the financial needs of organizations working to promote literacy. Earlier this year, a highly successful book sale provided 160 books to local organizations.

Profits from the Inter-Commons Council Ball and from a Halloween candygram sale were donated to community programs as well.

A web page and resource network to meet some of the technological needs of literacy programs are Shreve's and Stoller's next projects. Additionally, Page One continues to research the possibility of a computer donation program.

Page One will continue for the next three years in conjunction with the college's bicentennial celebrations which will culminate in 2000 when the group hopes to meet its already established long-term goals.

By 2000, Shreve and Stoller hope to have 2000 Middlebury College faculty, staff and students involved in the Literacy Project. After 2000, the duo hopes the effort will continue nationwide through Middlebury's alumni organization and perhaps in collaboration with other colleges.

Page One also hopes to address adult literacy concerns. Shreve is currently working with adults through the Middlebury Parent and Child Center. She commented that literacy is multi-dimensional, encompassing many practical purposes.

"It provides the knowledge necessary for earning a GED, applying for a job or filling out applications for a driver's license," said Shreve. "Creating adult literacy fosters family literacy and can help integrate reading into the family routine." Shreve believes that "literacy is generational" and interest in reading is most readily passed from parent to child.

This year, the Page One Literacy Project hopes to raise awareness of the literacy problem in Addison County and unite the college in volunteer efforts promoting literacy. They are currently actively seeking interested people to fill more volunteer and executive positions.

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Habitat for Humanity meets $5000 goal at silent auction

(continued from page 3)

events that Habitat has sponsored this year. A 5k road race and a semi-formal sponsored by the Inter-house council were the two major events this fall which helped to raise a collective amount of approximately $1300. Plans are currently being made for events which will take place during the Spring Semester.

In addition, Habitat has already organized the third annual spring break trip to participate in the group building of a house in Maryland.

The trip is part of the Collegiate Challenge, a month long build in which approximately 30 homes across the nation are constructed by college students.

Habitat for Humanity is a national non-profit organization dedicated to eliminating substandard housing and homelessness. There are 1,300 active affiliates throughout the country.

Middlebury College's campus chapter is currently associated with the Green Mountain affiliate located in Chittenden county, but members of Middlebury's chapter believe that a local affiliate could better serve the needs of Addison county.

Members of the chapter are now researching a proposal to start a local affiliate. Since creating a proposal for a new affiliate will likely entail a great deal of research, co-chairs Suwha Hong and Jennifer Jensen have taken on the research for the formation of the local affiliate as a 500 project for this spring.

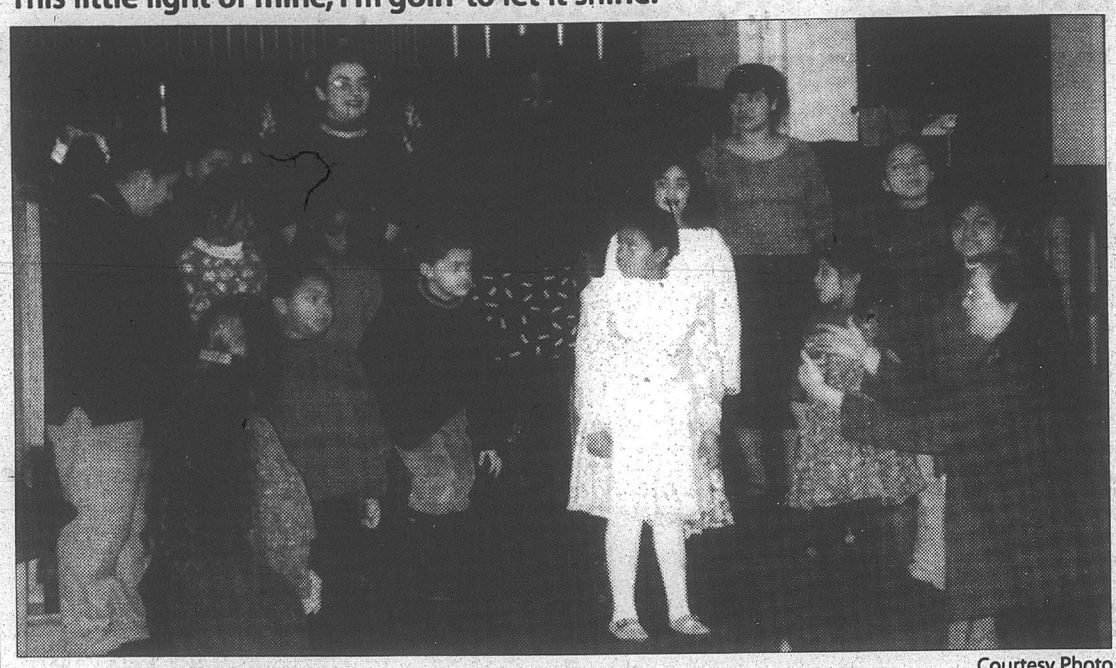
Although Habitat is comprised of a core of enthusiastic and dedicated members, there is some concern about the future of the group since younger students are not represented.

"This year's group is composed mostly of seniors," said Jensen. "We are really looking for new members who want to become involved."

The group usually meets once a week to plan fund-raisers as well as organize groups to work on-site at various building projects in the area.

Habitat contacts are Jennifer Jensen '98.5, Suwha Hong '98, or Carrie Rief '99.

This little light of mine, I'm goin' to let it shine!



Courtesy Photo

Palana Kids, *children of color living in Addison County, joined up with their "big brothers and sisters" from the Palana House to perform songs during the Alumni of Color celebrations in Mead Chapel this weekend.*

Students contend with Winter Term registration woes

(continued from page 1)

cellation the day he returned from vacation, spent the first four days of Winter Term "stressed out" because not one of the first five professors he approached let him add.

Becker said that his main complaint was that MARS and other information sources were not up to date. "I would see openings on the Internet, go to the class, and find it was already full," he complained.

Knapp said she agreed that MARS information was not reliable, but said that students need to realize that changes in class enrollments are happening by the minute. "The system is updated constantly," she said. According to Belanger, this was the first Winter Term registration occurred on the web.

According to Belanger, Middlebury did not offer fewer Winter Term classes than it has in prior years. Rather, the number of class offerings has increased to 108, eight more than last year.

There were about 50 classes and a total of 300 spaces open at the end of round two, according to Belanger, who said such numbers are "quite normal."

She also said that there was not an increase in the number of students who stayed on campus.

The Winter Term schedule was also different from previous years. More classes were scheduled for afternoon and evening sessions, creating conflicts with sports and clubs. According to Community Council Chair Alyson Cucci, the Council opted to cancel its Winter Term meetings due to members' schedule conflicts with comps and Winter Term classes.

Knapp said that she did not know why class times were so different from last year.

Some students, including Becker, have expressed frustration in professors' tendencies to stick to class limits. "After I was denied admission for the third time, I wondered whether anyone would break the limit," he said.

"The faculty are allowed to increase over the limit," said Administrative Associate Alice Berninghausen, "but it is not encouraged."

Belanger said that she did not believe the faculty was too strict with class limits.

According to Belanger, there always seems to be a group of popular courses that several students want. This year wait lists for courses such as Venice in the Age of Titian, Effective Speaking, Thermodynamics, and Philosophy and Literature ranged from 26 to 57 students. Juniors, who have last preference in registration, were denied the most classes during MARS.

"Not everyone can get their first choice," said Belanger. "I'd love to have it that way, but this is a fact of life that we have to work with." Belanger said that the Dean's Office is working on increasing more appealing offerings.

Knapp said that the Dean of Students Office "bent over backwards" to accommodate students with registration difficulties.

"We gave tons of leeway in the drop/add period due to the extenuating circumstances of cancellations and the ice storm," she said, referring to how the Dean of Students Office did not charge the usual $25 fee for late registration. "People were trying to do the right

Ridgeline Woods houses open doors

(continued from page 3)

now been installed as well.

The former residences of the relocated students will be used for various purposes. The former Omega Alpha (Tavern) house will eventually become office space for the External Affairs office.

Centeno, Zeta Alpha Phi's former location, is already occupied by students returning from abroad. Jewett, Alpha Delta Phi's previous residence, will become a senior housing option in the spring.

The construction of the Ridgeline Woods area is not yet completed, despite the opening of these three new houses. There is a fourth house still under construction that will not be finished until late spring. This house will probably be first available for summer school housing.

Contractors continue to landscape the area. In the meantime, there will be tours of the three completed houses during the month, and the houses will be visited by trustees in late January or February.

Members of the college's custodial service team moved the belongings of social house members Tuesday in an effort to make the mid-year transition to the houses a little smoother.

Construction for four additional houses is ultimately planned for the area although it has not begun as of yet.

"These houses were set aside by the decision of the trustees," said President John McCardell. "They should be looked upon with envy not jealousy, understanding that the college plans to achieve housing of this quality for all students [in the future]."

SGA issues mission statement on commons

The Executive Committee wholeheartedly supports President McCardell in his attempts to better the residential life of Middlebury College.

Since Sept. we have participated in the various aspects of the process in hopes of contributing to the discussion. However, ever since Ron Liebowitz announced the discussion process in late Sept., the SGA has had no formal role in the deliberations.

After watching the discussions take their own course for the last several months we have come to the conclusion that it is our role to participate in the discussion. As such we have decided to consider different conclusions regarding the questions of residential life and to offer our thoughts for consideration to the community, and to the Residential Life Committee. It is important to note that any and all of our conclusions will fall within the three guiding principles endorsed by the Trustees in September.

As guests at the Trustee retreat in Sept., we were the first group of students to be involved in this discussion. Ever since then we have continued to familiarize ourselves with the plan and the discussions thereof. We are a diverse group of students on this campus. We therefore hope to bring different ideas to the table and try to support those changes in our Residential Life system which will be best suited for our community. In addition, we have a strong sense of the differing faculty positions on these issues. These positions must be taken into account as the discussions go forward.

As we begin this process, the Executive Committee members do not wish to infringe on the work already being done by various groups on campus. We hope that the committee, which has been soliciting the student response to the proposed enhanced residential life system, will finish its job well.

We will make no claim to including the thoughts of the entire student community in our final report. Our work will be our own yet at the same time representative of the student community since we are here to serve as leading representatives of the student body.

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Residential life forums address aspects of proposed commons

By Jen Crystal
Staff Writer

Decentralized dining was the focus of last Thursday's panel on the proposed enhanced commons system. Students, and faculty and staff expressed myriad views on the issue. Ultimately, however, no consensus was reached.

"There's more to dining than just eating," said Director of Dining Services Peter Napolitano in opening. "Dining is linked to the whole commons plan to enhance communities and provide more natural, organic ways for people to get together and to know one another."

Napolitano defined decentralized dining as having more than one dining facility. He raised several concerns over having a separate dining hall in each commons. These included the potential addition of approximately 40 new staff members, financial concerns and the quality of the food that would result from such a change.

In a study done on Rice University's system of eight colleges that each contain a dining hall, Napolitano noted that that university has a central kitchen that sends out food to satellite units, resulting in little emphasis on staff training and poor food variety.

At Middlebury, conversely, "we are not creating a feeding experience; we're creating a dining experience. We are a quality driven program and pride ourselves on the food we serve," said Napolitano.

Karu Kozuma '98, who represented the student body's opinion on Thursday's panel, also expressed concerns over the proposed dining plan.

"We need to look at cost-who will foot the bill? Four years from now, I don't want to be paying off loans for a meal I consumed four years ago. Also, we don't want to cluster classes in one area, and then have everyone wind up at the same dining hall anyway," he said.

In addition, Kozuma stressed the importance of having a real student center to serve as a place through which everyone would circulate if Middlebury was to move to these proposed dining units.

"I believe the impetus of change is to improve crowds — to not have to fight for a salad bowl or a glass of water. But we need to look at these new challenges, because if we don't deal with them now we'll be right back where we started from," said Kozuma. "There really is no majority opinion within the Middlebury student body as to decentralized or centralized dining — people just want options."

Professor of history of art and architecture Cynthia Atherton expressed her opinion of the importance of commons in dining on campus, speaking specifically about commons-sponsored dinners. Atherton is also the Wonnacott Commons faculty associate.

"It is important to replicate an authentic experience [at commons dinners] that is memorable, interesting, and tied in to the academic program," said Atherton. "[Dinners] add a cultural experience to the learning and social experience."

Atherton said that faculty and their families are not comfortable participating in the dining experience at Middlebury as the system currently exists, and that decentralized dining and more commons dinners would further such involvement.

I've seen the cycles from centralized dining to decentralized to centralized with satellite dining units, and I think this is an absolutely first class idea.

"This kind of dining could be built in in a much more regulated way," Atherton said. "Instead of a place to lose touch with friends, a dining hall should be a place to personalize."

John Spencer, Professor of History and a 24-year member of the Middlebury faculty, fully supported the idea of decentralized dining.

"I've seen the cycles of Middlebury, from centralized dining, to decentralized, to centralized with satellite dining units, and I think this is absolutely a first class idea," he said.

"[This plan] would encourage interplay with faculty and establish a close sense of community and intellectual exchange."

However, Spencer also voiced concerns over the necessity for a real student center and the current lack of flow between students and faculty at noontime dining hours.

Director of Health Education and Coordinator of Sexual Harassment Educational Prevention Programs Yonna McShane had several concerns about the proposed plan in relation to eating disorders and distress about eating.

In a recent survey of 400 Middlebury women, 97 percent identified Proctor as causing distress with eating because of the noise level, chaos, stress level and the sense that they are being judged by the food they put on their trays.

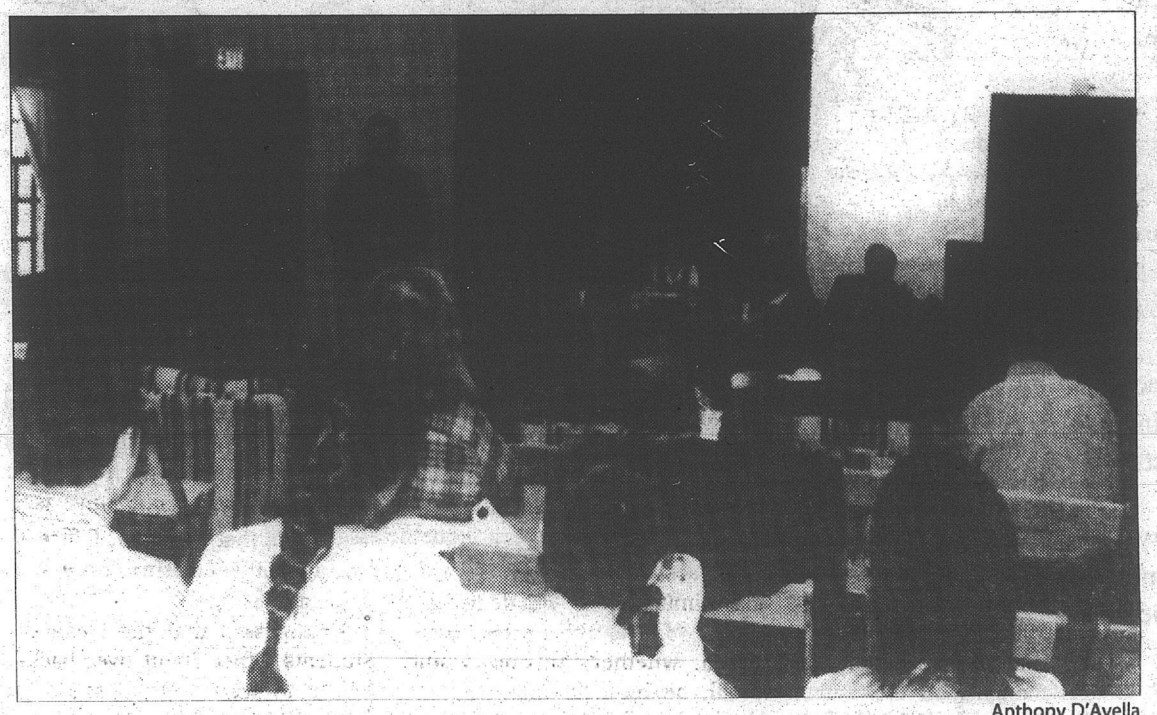
"Dining halls need a sense of intimacy and privacy," said McShane.

Audience members at the panel discussion voiced further concerns such as finances, the attraction to Proctor many students have for interacting with peers many students only see at mealtimes. Participants thought that a decentralized system would encourage students to eat only within their own commons. Throughout Winter Term the office of residential life has been hosting several forums relating to the issues posed by the current commons system proposal.

Other panel discussions have focussed on the role of faculty members within the new system and the matter of continuing commons.

Tuesday, a panel of faculty, staff and students discussed continuing commons. Some concern was raised about whether continuing commons would enhance the diversity of Middlebury or further limit the interaction between various groups at Middlebury.

"We must create ways [within the new system] so that minority students do not feel isolated," said panel participant and Professor of Russian Kevin Moss.



Anthony D'Avella

A packed audience listened and contributed to the panel discussions held this week in the Hepburn lounge.

Rice visit lends insight to commons

at Middlebury since delays of up to two hours could potentially occur between the time the food is prepared and eaten.

Napolitano also said that Middlebury dining seems to be more involved in students' lives by providing such events as tailgate parties and midnight breakfasts. "We value our relationship with the students," he said.

Napolitano did like the family-style dinners, which occur four times a week at Rice.

While events such as family-style dinners create a closely-knit community, they too seem to promote rivalries between the colleges at Rice. Middlebury students noted that these rivalries were one of the least impressive aspects of the Rice system.

"There seems to be no sense of Rice as a [whole]," said Mike Hartt '01. Hartt said that transferring a commons system such as Rice's would "be a disaster" and pointed out that although the eight colleges foster a strong sense of community, this fact did not diminish dorm damage. Also, Hartt noted that, although Rice does not have a social house system like that at Middlebury, heavy drinking still occurs on the campus.

"The colleges are really, really insular," said Hartt. He pointed out that the student with whom he stayed had friends only in his commons, "and never even thought about meeting anyone outside of his college."

"The system worked for Rice because Rice is in the middle of a big city," speculated Hartt.

Paul agreed with Hartt. "It takes students until their junior year to realize that there are seven other colleges out there besides their own," said Paul.

"Rice students are trained from the beginning of school to love their college and despise all others, because their college is obviously the best," said Carri Smith '98.

Smith said that this creates a certain amount of bonding among the students not unlike that which occurs in fraternities or sororities. "It appears that they would live and die for their college."

Smith commented that the students seemed to know their master and two RA's well, but the extent of student-faculty interaction seemed to stop there.

"The Rice students do not feel connected to the faculty in their major departments, and frequently it is the master [instead of someone within the student's major department] who writes a recommendation for the students," said Smith.

Smith also pointed out that Middlebury seems to have more academic programming and to foster closer bonds between faculty and students than at Rice.

All members of the Middlebury team who traveled to Rice have decided that Middlebury's rural setting means that the college must provide more recreational opportunities for its students than an urban school like Rice. Team members noted that Rice students strike a balance in their social lives, attending events both on-campus and in the city of Austin.

Campus-wide organizations and an enhanced student center would be instrumental in pulling Middlebury together as a campus even if certain other aspects of the Rice model are imitated in Vermont.

Another, smaller team conducted a similar visit at Harvard University. Teams have also visited Colby College and Princeton.

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Editorial

Scandal Resolution 101

Was there *any* way a student around here could get into a J-term class this month? Well...

This is not to suggest that anyone should have pulled a Monica S. Lewinsky. But it seems that more than a few people might have been willing to perjure themselves before the dean had the faculty been just a little more accommodating when it came to allowing students into their classes this month.

For some reason, extra spots in J-term courses this year were few and far between. And despite being told by the dean of faculty to be more lenient towards students who needed a class, very few faculty were willing to extend their courses beyond their limits. Those professors who did admit additional students appear to have been mostly new and thus less seasoned to Middlebury politics.

This resulted in a large number of students who spent a good deal of time this January anxiously trying to wheedle their way past unsympathetic gatekeepers into a class — any class. Many disgruntled students complained that the faculty was simply being selfish.

It was no fun for these students to spend part of what is by Middlebury tradition a fun month searching vainly for a class, particularly a class in which the subject matter seemed somewhat less than thrilling. Many students have complained that this year's course catalog offered less variety than in years past.

Yet it is understandable that a professor would want to admit 20 more students into an already full course. However, there should have been more courses available that would have attracted a broader cross-section of students. This would have eliminated the problem of having a some classes that attracted many students and others that were canceled for lack of interest.

The issue here is the lack of communication between faculty and students regarding what each group wants out of this month. J-term is a time for professors to teach classes pertaining to their particular interests. Students take these classes to explore new ideas. Ideally, there would be enough interesting classes to fulfill everyone's intellectual curiosity. The faculty would be less overwhelmed, classes would be smaller and everyone's J-term experience would be more pleasurable. That wasn't the case. But it probably wasn't grounds for scandal either.

No one was asking for any kind of preferential treatment from the administration. Just a little diplomatic immunity from the injustice of seeking out a third-choice class, and better communication so it won't happen again.

The Middlebury Campus

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HELLO?
H-HI... WHAT ARE YOU WEARING?
I'M SORRY WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?
WAIT—ISN'T YOUR LAST NAME McCARDELL?
HUH? OH, SURE BABY, SURE.
CAMPUS BIG NEWS!

Letters to the Editor

Commons system reclaims college's distinctive spirit

As a recent graduate of Middlebury who has returned to teach political science, I have observed with interest our recent debates about residential life. From the perspective of a Middlebury student and teacher, I would like to offer some thoughts on the framework of three principles which President McCardell and the Trustees have provided for a residential life plan.

I arrived at Middlebury 13 years ago just as a fine report on academic and social life withered in various faculty fora, because the president who had commissioned the report decided that faculty deliberation should be unhindered by his administration. Some pieces from the Lopez Committee report, such as our First Year Seminars, were implemented in subsequent years, but the comprehensive principles which could have greatly augmented liberal learning at Middlebury were lost. Perhaps President McCardell, then beginning his administrative career, learned that certain issues require more executive direction if a common good is to be achieved.

The fact of the Lopez report and several later ones, including the decision to shift toward a commons system six years ago, suggests that the President's recent initiative follows a long discussion of residential life. Indeed, the three principles proposed, continuous membership, decentralized dining, and proximate residence for a few senior faculty, are the logical end toward which Middlebury has been moving for at least a decade and a half.

Decentralizing student dining would recover a part of our past which worked very well, though today it would differ from the 1950s' model (men and women dining together and no dining in fraternities, to mention two aspects). Achieving an intimacy of scale and an indirect, not in loco parentis, but nonetheless influential faculty and staff presence in student lives would recover a part of our past which also worked well, though this, too, would differ from our past model (no chaperones, dorm mothers, bed check, etc.). Establishing proximate residences for the Faculty Associate (or Dean of Studies, or Head) of each Commons seems the only innovation. But the College historian might tell us that this, too, is part of our past, and it is considered essential by schools which have enjoyed a house or commons structure for residential education. Rather than risking our legacy and our recent achievements on some untested and expensive gamble, the President's initiative selectively reclaims our heritage in residential liberal education.

The spirit of these principles is to reconnect classroom and residential life at least indirectly, and this can do great things for the maturity and the life of the mind of our students. Such a commons system also would give faculty more opportunities to talk with each other and to present their research in their home community. Students, faculty, and staff thus can live a life of the mind centered in our classrooms but not left to wither there in isolation. By reclaiming our distinctive spirit as a residential liberal arts and sciences college, these principles serve our highest purpose, the life of the mind in the classroom, and beyond it.

The President's proposal also addresses our worst problems, drinking, drugs, date rape, drunk driving, and others, the squandering of too many precious lives when their care has been entrusted to this College. These problems have long been recognized and debated here. Time, talent, and money have been spent in recent decades to develop the offices of Dean of Students, Counseling, Student Activities, and Residential Life. We have invested ourselves in a Student

(see President page 9)

Hill defends Thomas Fellowship

In what generally appears to be a balanced argument in favor of continuing social houses, Mr. Stratton's January 14th article, entitled "Stratton questions role of commons in social sphere", contains one glaring error: "Cliques form," he writes, "and that's a fact. Some of them start out as Commons and are forced to become Fellowships."

I am unaware of other Fellowships; isn't Thomas the only one? But, as an associate of the Thomas Fellowship, I am only speaking for us.

Thomas Fellowship is not a clique. And that is a fact. (Clique—first dictionary definition: "a small exclusive circle people.")

The sheer persistence with which writers for The *Campus* assert this error of fact suggests either willed ignorance, or worse.

The Thomas Fellowship is open to all—always has been and always will be. I responded to the charge that it was exclusive, a clique, in a letter to The *Campus* once before, this past fall, where the same charge had been made.

I shall continue to do so every time your paper prints this blatant misrepresentation.

Robert W. Hill, Jr. is a Professor of English and the Faculty Associate Member of the Thomas Fellowship

French vs. American attitudes debated

Carole Stromboni

Disclaimer: of course, when you read the terms French, Americans, foreigners, you must be aware that they stand for most of the French, the Americans, the foreigners, not all of them.

When I first came to the States, I found that all the Americans were very friendly; they spoke openly with me, always introduced themselves, asked my name, said hi and smiled every time I saw them. In my country, especially in big cities such as Paris, the people are closed " cold" to one another. Smiling at someone you do not know is extremely rare, and even in your own school you do not speak to a person unless you have been introduced to him or her. If you have been introduced to someone once and then have never spoken to that person again, you do not bother to smile at him or her every time you see him or her.

These attitudes are part of an implicit social code, whose rules hinge on a conception of the others as a potential menace, especially in large, fast paced and aggressive cities such as Paris.

Whereas Americans tend to idealize the human race, the French are more realistic. Because the French keep strangers at a distance, many Americans who come to France find the French rude, unfriendly and difficult to approach. Not only are the they difficult to make contact with, but they also reject any form of superficiality in relationships. They assume that someone who is used to smiling at unknown people, always making compliments and avoiding conflicts, must be a hypocritical, superficial and uninteresting person. Thus, each French person who comes to the States, after an initial period of happiness at being surrounded by friendly Americans, begins to think that this friendliness is merely superficial. Hence, the idea that Americans are superficial.

In an excellent book on the differences and similarities between French and American cultures, *French or foe?* by Polly Plat (page 243), Philippe D. Bachelor in Washington with the SNECMA exemplifies that feeling. "Everyone was so nice to me from the very beginning. When I met them just once, they were so friendly that I felt very happy with all these new friends. When they said to call them for lunch, I did, and they didn't even know who I was! I got very depressed for a long time." It is true that many, not to say all, French people experience that impression of superficiality defined "a lack in depth or solidity, shallowness," (Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary). In other words, the French, as well as many foreigners, quickly classify Americans as a superficial people because they seem not to care about you as much as what their actions would lead you to believe.

In a small college such as Middlebury, everybody says "Hi! How are you? " or at least smiles at strangers. Even foreigners, here for just a short time, do the same because it is what Americans do If they do not comply with the greeting rituals, they are considered as either asocial or rude. As a result, on the surface, one does not know who one's friends are since the greetings are the same for acquaintances, friends, even lovers, sometimes. I still do not know to what extent Americans distinguish between acquaintances and friends. Nonetheless, there is no doubt that their whole conception of friendship differs from the French. Although the French are very difficult to know at first, the closer you get to them in terms of friendship, the easier it gets. As soon as you gain a French person's confidence, you have a very good chance of becoming one of the few people he or she trusts. Conversely, as an American friend of mine pointed out, American conception of friendship hinges rather on a layer phenomenon; that is, the closer you get to an American, the further the latter seems to withdraw, the more he or she seems to escape from you. One has to try hard not only to keep contact with an American but to make a friend, to know him or her in depth.

Mari-Monique Steckel, president of France Telecom North America, who has lived in New York for 33 years with an American husband, points out that "Americans have a terrible shyness of being too intimate, even a fear of it, and they don't want to burden someone else with their woes, so they don't usually have a best friend; they'd rather pay a psychiatrist "(*French or foe?*, page 243) This shyness stems from a central characteristic of the American people: their privacy regarding their own person, their own thoughts and opinions, not so much their belongings or their earnings. This deep American sense of privacy comes from the veneration of the individual, of one's rights, and especially of their sacrosanct freedom, that is defined as self-reliance and not so much as being different or unique. This individualism ironically results in an homogenization of the society: the Americans,

(see French page 9)

Thomas embodies ideals of commons

Several misconceptions concerning the Thomas Fellowship exist on the *Campus,* as evidenced by Bryan Stratton's "Hail to the Chief" column in the last issue of the Campus where he indicated that "Cliques form, and that's a fact. Some of them start out as commons and are forced to become fellowships because they did not exemplify the all-inclusive interdisciplinary ideals of the Commons system."

Far from being forced to change its status, members of the Thomas Commons went before the Residential Life Committee of their own volition to propose that the parameters of their organization change. Far from evolving into exclusivity, Thomas was granted the right to become a non-residential Fellowship so that it might serve the Students, Faculty, Staff and community at large with greater ease. Thomas's Council is quite large, comprised of 25 members, including faculty and students representing an array of academic disciplines and diversity in ethnicity and gender. We also have on our mailing list over 250 individuals from all parts of the Middlebury Community. Inspiration for our events comes from our comprising members.

This year alone we have hosted a seminar on Japanese film, a Christmas party with carols accompanied by miniature tree decorating for the children of faculty, staff and towns people, a student panel for the Sub-Saharan Africa Symposium, a discussion led on Parents Weekend by the parents of one of our Council members on Love, Sex and Intimacy, a Celebration of Autumn, a lecture on Leonardo DaVinci and a symposium on the biblical story of Abraham and Isaac. It is both silly and sad that we might be cast as a clique, for our numbers and range of activities prove us to be anything but exclusive; in fact we embody the very virtues of the Commons System vision at its finest.

So wide-ranging is our appeal that if we are exclusive in any way it is the simple dilemma we face that our house has grown too small for our events and participants spill out of the commons room into the kitchen and front stoop. All are, and always have been, welcome to attend our events, listed in "This Week At Middlebury" and announced on posters throughout the College.

It becomes more and more apparent on this issue that, if anything, our SGA President has difficulties with the definitions of 'inclusivity' and 'clique' and unabashedly dispenses with truth for the sake of scape-goat humor.

We cordially welcome all to our upcoming events for the Spring Semester and, as always, there is an announcement list on the kitchen counter, so that all interested parties might put their names on our mailing list and add to our ever-increasing numbers.

Dan Varholy and Matt Sheldon are Co-Chairs of Thomas Fellowship

Social Houses deemed safest spot for drinking

hail from the
CHIEF
Bryan Stratton '98

So far this year, I have not written on the same specific topic twice in successive columns. However, with an impending faculty vote on the nine proposals written by Professors Pack and Olinick, I feel that I must return to the issue of the potential elimination of the social house system. I'm sorry if you feel this has been beaten to death and that there are no more arguments to be made, but I don't.

I just got back from a meeting of the SGA Executive Committee and Professors Pack and Olinick, and, leaving that meeting, I was amazed at how well it went. With such volatile issues as the social house question on the table, it could have easily degenerated into a shouting match between the two groups. But it didn't. I'm not sure either side's mind was changed by the other's arguments, but the free and open exchange of ideas in an intimate, friendly setting was, for me personally, a very satisfying and rewarding experience. In every respect, it was exactly the kind of exchange I would like to see the proposed residential plan encourage: faculty and students sitting down together outside of the classroom to discuss non-academic issues, with both sides able to offer equally valid perspectives on the issue.

When I first began speaking to students regarding the residential restructuring plan in September, the one concern voiced over and over was one regarding "proximate faculty housing." Many students were afraid that Middlebury College, under this plan, would suddenly be transformed into a prep school, with faculty and administrators lurking around every corner, telling students how to live their lives and prepared to pounce on them should they make a mistake. I made every effort to assure my fellow students that this would not be the case, and in most cases I believe I eased their minds. And now I'm starting to look like a bit of a hypocrite. If the faculty adopts Professors Pack and Olinick's Proposal One, which calls for the abolishment of social houses on Middlebury College's campus, what tone will that set for the role of faculty in students' non-academic life? Both professors have convinced me that the reason they wish to lead an initiative to get rid of these houses is to protect students from their own often self-destructive behavior. Without a doubt, these two men are acting with the best of intentions. But I think we all know what the road to hell is paved with.

Abolishing the house system would not only put students' relationship with the faculty in jeopardy, it could very possibly remove an effective control valve on binge drinking. In a conversation with Director of Security Tedi Jennings at the beginning of the year, I asked her what she viewed as the most dangerous place to drink on campus. She replied that she believed the first-year dorms were, citing an increased consumption of hard alcohol behind closed doors. It makes sense: if under-age students fear getting caught by Security, they will purchase easily-concealable bottles of hard alcohol and drink in their rooms with the doors locked. If a student is an inexperienced drinker, he or she may not know his or her limits and could consume a dangerous, possibly fatal, amount of alcohol. Last year saw a dramatic number of alcohol-related trips to the Health Center and the hospital amongst first-year students.

I would like to see this trend reversed, which brings me to my next point: I asked Tedi what the safest drinking environment on campus was. After a moment of hesitation, she replied that she would have to say the social houses. At a social house, due to restrictions on the amount of alcohol which can be served at a party, it is uncommon for a student to get more than two or three beers in an evening. If a student drinks too much, there are hundreds of other people around who can assist him or her, even if that assistance is something as simple as walking around outside or to the Health Center. And the houses are on campus, within walking distance of every residence; there is no need to drive, potentially under the influence, to or from any house.

If the houses are removed from campus, we will not see a reduction

(see Abolishment page 8)

Campus editorial avoided social issue

In last week's *Campus* the anonymous (and thus unaccountable) editor seeks to avoid the issue of destructive student behavior by undermining my appeal for student involvement and concern by complaining that I made what he/she calls a "facetious" remark about student drinking. Excessive student drinking is a fact, and, yes, I did make a jocular aside as a reminder of this central social issue, but how do you have a discussion that addresses major issues with someone who fails to understand the revered role of satiric humor in the service of serious discourse? The issues I and others have raised are not so easily dismissed. The fact that Mike Olinick and I had organized this meeting (the first of its kind) precisely for the purpose of inviting faculty, staff, and students to exchange ideas, and that I repeatedly asked for student response to the challenge of what everyone ought to acknowledge as behavior detrimental to the safety of our community and a distraction from our educational pursuits, seems to have escaped the editor's awareness, though, at the meeting, when exhorted a second time, several students spoke impressively and boldly to the point, acknowledging the need for greater student responsibility.

My record of caring about and serving students as a teacher of many years, as one of the authors of the original commons document with its emphasis on inclusivity, and as (voluntary) co-director of Thomas Fellowship for six years, speaks for itself, and so I call again for engagement and discussion about disturbing social issues on campus, not avoidance and denial. If the best the editor can come up with is his/her conclusion that "the ambiguity of the commons proposal can become an asset," then we surely have a long way to go both in clarifying what problems we are trying to solve and what goals we are trying to achieve.

Professor Robert Pack is Co-Director of Thomas Fellowship

Students urged to take more responsibility for environment

Josh Otlin '00

At Middlebury College, we are proud of our strong environmental reputation among the nation's colleges and universities. We have one of the finest environmental studies programs anywhere, and a student recycling program that goes above and beyond the programs of most schools. We have an administration, backed by its students, parents, and Board of Trustees, that is committed to making Middlebury an environmentally responsible institution. However, members of the Middlebury community may not be as committed to the environment as they would like us to believe.

Mr. Peter Bijur is an influential member of the Middlebury community who is committed to the mission of the college and to the education of its students. Mr. Bijur is the parent of two Middlebury graduates and he is a member of the Board of Trustees, which often has a final say in the policies and actions of the college. Mr. Bijur is the "chairman of the board" and CEO of Texaco, Inc. Mr. Bijur would appear to manage this enormous, multinational corporation with the same level of environmental respect he is committed to in the affairs of Middlebury College. However, Texaco's environmental record has been less than outstanding, and the company continues to operate in a manner that does not respect the environment.

One glaring example of Texaco's failed commitment to the environment is its tragic legacy in the Amazonian rainforest of Ecuador. Texaco entered Ecuador in 1964, discovering oil in the Oriente region of the Amazon. Texaco controlled and operated a consortium with Ecuador's state oil company, Petroecuador. From 1972-1992, the Texaco-Petroecuador consortium was responsible for 88% of oil production in the Oriente. According to Texaco, they were the minority partner in the consortium, with the Ecuadorian government receiving 98% of total proceeds, accounting for 50% of Ecuador's GNP during the years of the consortium's operation. However, Texaco controlled all aspects of oil development. The Ecuadorian government did not have the know-how or the resources to effectively regulate Texaco, a company with annual earnings four times Ecuador's GNP.

This lack of effective regulation allowed Texaco to conduct its operations without regard for the ecology or people of the Oriente. During its 26-year tenure in Ecuador, Texaco was responsible for severe toxic contamination, deforestation, and threats to public health in the Oriente. Over 19 billion gallons of highly toxic production waters were discharged directly into waterways or leached into groundwater sources, leaving toxic carcinogens in drinking water at concentrations 10-100 times greater than US EPA safety guidelines permit. 16.8 million gallons of oil was spilled into the Amazonian region from pipeline ruptures—1.5 times the amount released by the Exxon Valdez into Prince William Sound. Texaco also left 600 unlined and uncovered toxic waste pits in the Oriente. Furthermore, the human impact includes six local indigenous groups whose cultures, traditions, and economic future are bound to the rainforest and the sustainable management of its resources.

The livelihood of the indigenous groups, and the sustainability of the rainforest ecosystem, have been seriously jeopardized by the roads built in the Oriente region by Texaco. These roads have made large-scale logging and colonization a reality in the Oriente. As a result, the Oriente has suffered massive deforestation of the rainforest and the displacement of its indigenous peoples. I do not claim, nor do I wish to give the impression, that Mr. Bijur is personally responsible for the tragedy in Ecuador. However, Mr. Bijur is in the position to provide an effective remedial action for the Amazonian rainforest and the people of the Oriente. Unfortunately, Mr. Bijur and Texaco have been avoiding the necessary remediation since Texaco left Ecuador in 1990. International pressures finally coerced Texaco to sign a remediation agreement with the Ecuadorian government in 1995. The cleanup began early in 1996.

However, the Ecuadorian president put a stop to the "charade" by suspending cleanup activities pending official review. Along with the President, Texaco's cleanup efforts have been denounced by virtually every relevant institution in Ecuador, including Petroecuador, Texaco's former partner in the consortium. However, in 1996, Texaco claimed that, "As a company, we can look at our record in Ecuador with great pride."

Here at Middlebury, the Rainforest Action Group (RAG) has joined the international movement against Texaco. Since the spring of 1997, the RAG has contacted Mr. Bijur and Texaco, receiving standard and unsatisfactory responses. Members of the Middlebury RAG, as well as many other Middlebury students, have signed letters and petitions announcing their boycott of Texaco until Texaco completes the following: 1) A comprehensive and independent public investigation, with participation by indigenous and settler communities and organizations and environmentalists, to assess environmental and social damages caused by Texaco in Ecuador, and identify measures that can be taken to remedy them, to the fullest extent possible; 2) A cleanup by Texaco of its toxic legacy in the rainforest, according to a plan to be developed with local communities and environmentalists; 3) Repair and upgrade of facilities that Texaco designed and built, in order to stop ongoing pollution; 4) For damages that are irreversible, Texaco must indemnify affected communities by supporting remedial projects, including the provision of safe water supplies and health care.

I urge members of the Middlebury community to become involved in the struggle for an effective cleanup of the Oriente by Texaco. If you support the goals of the boycott, please join it, and spread the word . If you can, please write to Mr. Bijur, urging him to take action in Ecuador, at:

Mr. Peter Bijur
3 Homewood Lane
New Canaan, CT
06840

Also, if you wish to join the Middlebury RAG in its campaign against Texaco, please check the RAG board in the mailroom, directly across from the mailroom window. Please help the Middlebury community live up to the fine environmental reputation it has developed over many years of hard work and dedication to the environment.

Abolishment of social houses screams trouble

(continued from page 7)

in dangerous drinking habits, and an incident from Louisiana State University from last year bears this out. Soon after the college banned alcohol from its campus (including its fraternity system), a 20-year-old student drank himself to death at an off-campus party in a local bar. The drinking will continue, but it won't continue in any way that the College has any control over.The big question, however, remains: should the College support and provide residences for organizations whose most obvious role is to host parties and provide alcohol to under-age students? My answer is yes, because I would hate to imagine the possible consequences of removing these institutions from the College. Middlebury is a small college in the middle of nowhere, with no downtown to speak of, and no off-campus venues for entertainment. We need social options on campus, and a significant number of students equate "entertainment" with "hanging out in a crowded room while drinking bad beer and listening to worse music." And, as distasteful as that may sound, it's certainly better than pounding shots behind a closed door or driving to Cornwall to party and drive back drunk.

If the faculty votes to do away with the house system, they will be effectively voting to endanger the health of the student body, as well as the health of the faculty's relationship with the student body. I would like faculty members follow Professors Pack and Olinick's lead and meet with students, sitting down with IHC leaders, objectively examining where the houses succeed and where they fail, and working together to retain the advantages of the system and continue to help it evolve as it has done so effectively. I learned in May of last year not to attack the system from the outside, but to work within the system to change it, and with my election, I've done just that.

Now with a pivotal vote coming up in February, I challenge the faculty to do the same.

Faculty perception of social houses not in line with reality

For a political junkie like myself, especially one who cannot stand Bill Clinton, this past week has been a rather entertaining experience. So as I sat down to write this article, the most obvious topic was the Clinton controversy, take n. However, a controversy that is just beginning to take shape here at Midd, one dealing with Social Houses, concerns us students to a much larger extent. So I decided to write today to try to convince some of my wonderful teachers that Social Houses are not as bad as they may first seem.

Let me set the record straight: I am not a member of a Social House, I would never consider being a member of a House, I have not been to one in G-d knows how many months, and I have not been drunk since September. However, I think that eliminating Social Houses would do our College harm. I believe that there is a case, a very strong case, for keeping the Social Houses here.

I was at the faculty meeting in February when Robert Pack, the College Professor or English and Michael Olinick, the Baldwin Professor of Mathematics and Natural Philosophy, proposed their motion which included in it a proposal for the elimination of Social Houses the way we know them today. I agree with the professors that Middlebury is a place of learning and the role of our residential structure should be to allow for the "life of the mind." I also agree with them that the environment created by the rampant drinking that one finds on this campus beginning on Thursday evenings and ending on Sunday afternoons is not one that we should be proud of, or one that is suitable. The issue of drinking must be addressed, but the question of Social Houses is totally separate.

I was so very proud of our faculty when the resolution was introduced. Not only did they show me how much they care about this school and about the state of this great institution, but they demonstrated their willingness to carefully consider the questions of residential life and try to fix the real problems, instead of changing our school with a stroke of a pen. However, I believe that the faculty are being misled by certain understandable misrepresentations in the perceptions of Social Houses. These are: the apparent belief that Social Houses are no different from fraternities; the idea that Social Houses are exclusive; and the hope that by eliminating the Social Houses, the drinking on our campus will decrease.

If Social Houses were fraternities, I would be the first person to call for their elimination. However, Social Houses here at Midd are co-ed organizations. They do not haze people. They are not even allowed to use alcohol in their pledge activities. It is all but impossible to tell who is a member of a Social House and who is not: the members do not restrict themselves to the House activities; rather, they are some of the most active members of our community.

Further, I am often told that Social Houses are exclusive. For one, Middlebury College in itself is an exclusive institution. Anyone can apply here, but only 550 of us get to come (in each class). But that is not the main point; the important thing is that the Social Houses themselves are not exclusive since if a student rushes all of the Houses, he is guaranteed to get into at least one. Granted, it may be better for the IHC to change the rules and say that the student will get a bid from one of her top three choices. This would make already inclusive Houses even more inclusive, but doing this is not an essential change.

Finally, we are told that the Social Houses support the drinking environment of our campus. Maybe on the surface, but if one looks deep into the facts of the matter, this is not true. Rather, they help that environment by providing a safe and concentrated place to hang out for those students who are already drunk. It boggles my mind when I think about the fact that so many of my fellow Midd students stop everything that they were doing during the course of the week, and get totally slobbered on Friday night. I got drunk the first time around when I was 11 years old. Getting a buzz is a nice thing every once in a while. But doing the same thing every weekend..Therefore, I believe that we need to seriously examine the drinking culture on this campus and try to address the problem.

However, drinking on this campus has very little to do with Social Houses. It is almost impossible to get drunk in a Social House. There is a four keg limit at registered parties. What is that, one-two bears per person? People do not get drunk at Social Houses, they get drunk in their rooms. Afterwards, they leave their rooms and go to the Houses to be loud and "enjoy" (though I do not understand how) that state of being. If there were no Social Houses, all this loudness would move into the dorms. I cannot stand when they have parties in Forest East Lounge (that's where I live). I can only imagine what it would be like if there were two parties there every weekend.

I think it is clear that what the faculty want for this campus is what the students want Ñto make it the best institution of higher learning that it can be. It so happens that we differ on this one issue. Yet, if John Stuart Mill is at all right, discussion of differences may lead towards an understanding which is truly the correct response. So let us discuss. Do not yell at the faculty, do not get provoked and do not provoke them. They are adults who have decided to give their lives to teaching and many of them have spent their entire careers at Middlebury. They deserve to be heard and they deserve to be engaged in discussion. Let's do just that.

President's commons rationale deemed 'right on the money'

(continued from page 6)

Center and elaborate orientation programs. Some of these changes were needed and will continue to be productive, but some were band-aids which recognized deep problems but did not address them directly.

I was a junior counselor and house director here a decade ago, and later spent three years studying at Oxford (a mother of the house system in university education). I returned to the college stronger and better in many ways, but I also saw that our attempted remedies in residential life , including the shift to social houses and a half-way step to a Commons system, have not adequately addressed long-standing problems. The President's three principles and the rationale behind them therefore seem right on the money. There is no magic bullet to eliminate the varied problems we face, no panacea to seek, but these principles have worked at small universities like ours (for that is what we have or will become). All of us who care about liberal learning should discuss the possible permutations of a residential liberal education based on these three broad principles, in a spirit of candor moderated by an appreciation that those with differing views offer them with the best of intentions for Middlebury. For these principles address our central problem: the lack of a higher or better life of the mind outside the classroom is not just failing to support but is actually damaging the life of the mind in our classrooms.

More students could rise toward a life of liberal learning if the President's three principles were applied.

As when I was a student, Middlebury's students fall into one of three groups. Some who come here will live the life of the mind, in and out of the classroom, no matter what the College does; some, however, will never be grabbed by that life they came here for other reasons, and those won't change. Our failure, our missed opportunity, lies with those students who come here with the ability to undertake a life of liberal learning but find little direction or inspiration from the College to do so. Too many are pulled toward a less thoughtful life.

The signs that these least studious of students dominate the tone or atmosphere of the campus are abundant, epitomized by the motto work hard, play hard. The life of the mind is no life, says this motto; it is drudgery we put up with because we have to, and to reward ourselves we do some constructive things (sports, music, drama, clubs, Commons activities, etc.) and some destructive things, we're entitled. Drunken brawls and universities have gone together since the middle ages, and I am not suggesting we attempt to eradicate such a spirit. But to be a place of learning the College must confront it, indicating to students in attractive but passive ways, both intellectually and residentially, that they can do better and that we will help them to do so. The play-hard-because-work-is-a-drag spirit need not dominate here. More students could rise toward a life of liberal learning if the President's three principles were applied, a life which only begins, we hope, at Middlebury.

Put another way, a full Commons system addresses the three tragedies associated with the three segments of Middlebury's students. The most obvious are the deaths, rapes, indignities, and lives burdened with addiction which a party atmosphere promotes, with which Junior Counselors, House Directors, and student life staff are all too familiar; less obvious is our loss of very bright students, who transfer from Middlebury every year because they cannot endure the dominant spirit; least perceptible are the quiet tragedies of able students who could have learned and grown more if the spirit of the College had supported rather that undermined higher aims. I am not suggesting that Middlebury lose its diverse, exciting extracurricular life and cultivate only bookworms; I enjoyed a variety of such activities as a student here. But for the sake of the classrooms, our main purpose, life outside the classroom must improve at least to the point where it does not actively undermine the classroom's activity.

I close with some suggestions for our continuing discussions, foremost being the need for a more direct link between classroom and Commons. We should require the Head of each Commons to be an academic presence in the life of Commons and College; to give a public lecture each year; to coordinate a cluster of First Year Seminars each year which is affiliated with his or her Commons (the new Literature 101 course provides a model for such common learning); and to promote other common learning experiences among faculty and students by connecting courses through lectures or other common meetings.

Also, we should not develop further, or promote, off-campus housing or non-commons housing for seniors or other students. Those who want freedom and a commute are free to attend a university, but Middlebury should be Middlebury, a residential liberal arts and sciences college in which learning is inseparable from living.

Finally, prudence suggests that eliminating fraternities (to speak candidly) would only hinder support for the Commons plan, even for the College itself. But they must be reconceived. Here again we should thoughtfully reclaim part of our heritage. These institutions played a much more constructive role here four or five decades ago, and they now must have some mission other than boozing, drugs, and their attendant tragedies. Each one must be closely affiliated with a Commons, a satellite in its orbit; there must be a Commons-affiliated faculty adviser for each; each must organize a significant number of Commons events per semester. Subordinating fraternities to the Commons, pulling them into a Commons orbit, would do that without stoking unproductive squabbles about abolition. The new Commons system in which they would play a role also would address the very causes for the popularity of modes of friendship and relaxation so inimical to liberal study, at once making these associations more constructive and decreasing the appetite for the current mayhem. The great jurist Blackstone spoke of reform in law as renovating a Gothic castle so as to maintain the exterior structures while refurnishing the interior apartments. Such reform gains its objective without destruction or revolution and their attendant divisiveness, not to mention their unintended consequences.

There is much constructive deliberating to do within the President's three principles, and the open fora during Winter Term demonstrate that we are in fact doing so. These principles return Middlebury, with sound modifications, to principles which have worked here; they build upon a dozen years and more of College-wide deliberations; they draw upon principles and practices which are tried and true elsewhere, too. If we are committed to the life of the mind in our classrooms, and to the distinctive idea of residential liberal education in a rural college, we should spend our time perfecting the possibilities inherent in the President's initiative.

Paul Carrese '89 is a Visiting Instructor of Political Science

Follow the moral rules, says D'Avella

Anthony D'Avella '00

There are not a lot of things which puzzle me about Middlebury College and its students. I mean, come on, you cannot be within a more homogeneous school environment. There are those who break free of the "Middlebury mold," but they are few and far between. And so, I thought, for the most part, that life here was simple. By that I mean the simple rules and values by which people live applied here as in most any situation. However, two events occurred in the weeks prior to winter vacation that catalyzed much confusion within me.

During fall semester I had Italian class in Munroe 214, a computer classroom. One November morning I went to class and carried with me my camera, as I always do. Class ended and so I went to Proctor to eat breakfast - without my camera. It was not until about 45 minutes later that I realized that I had left my camera in class and raced back to Munroe. Now, my class ended at 10:00 am and another class began at 10:15; I immediately thought that it was stolen despite such a short time between classes. I had no doubt that a $1200 camera, lying on the floor unattended, would be stolen. And so I sat out of that classroom for 30 minutes, waiting until the class got out, so I could search the room. I watched the students as they left the room to see if they had picked it up, but no luck. When I looked around, I found no camera.

My camera is the only material possession that I care about. I could lose anything else and get over it, but my camera is important to me for two reasons. One, the sentimental value it has is enormous. It has been with me on some of the most extraordinary times of my life; it has been with me to the Gaza Strip, Nicaragua, and memorable times at home. The second reason is that it is the tool through which I do most of my artwork. Photography has allowed me to express myself and vent much frustration. I don't expect most to understand this aspect, but the former everyone should be able to comprehend. Everyone has something which has importance to them and of course one becomes attached to those objects. Maybe I shouldn't have become so attached or I should have taken better care of such an object by not leaving it in a classroom. But why should that matter. What matters is that the camera was left somewhere and one knowing that it is someone else's should return it. So when I went to security and found that it had been returned, you can imagine my surprise and happiness. I was shocked that someone on this campus had the common decency to think of someone other than himself. Even the security worker said that this type of thing never happens. I walked back to my room with my camera, thinking that maybe quality people on this campus were not as few and far between as I had once thought.

But sure enough, I was shown how naive I was to think such crazy thoughts. I had brought this other camera to school which belonged to my Dad. It was a 1969 Minolta SRT101 camera which he had bought in Vietnam, with our last name engraved on the bottom. For 29 years, my father had protected that camera from getting stolen or damaged. It went through a war, in and out of different countries, and recorded much of my family's history. But I don't expect the person whole stole it from my door to know that. I do not expect this person to even have an inkling of common respect for other people's property. This person had to be thinking, "Sweet, a phat camera." It makes me ill to even think of someone else with my Dad's camera. Not only was it stolen on a day when I was in and out of my room all day - Monday, December 15 - but it was stolen out of Forest, a dorm mostly made up of Seniors. Well, when I discovered that the camera was gone, I called my father. It was horrible to have to tell him that something I had borrowed from him, something that was a piece of him, was stolen. I said that I could buy him the same exact camera but he immediately dismissed the idea and said, "I don't want another camera. I want mine back."

There is no reason why this should have happened. still acknowledging that this is not a perfect world where everything works out.

Critics will say "If you care about your stuff so much, be more careful." And they are right. Because of this incident, I lock my door even when I go to the bathroom which is 30 feet down the hall. Who knows when I will be relieving myself and someone will steal my camera again. I do not feel that I have to tell a group of people not to steal; it is a basic human rule. When you take something that is not yours you pollute someone's trust. But hey, you have a new toy, screw everyone else.

French find Americans more friendly

(continued from page 7)

unconsciously or not, stick to the image of a nice person. As Americans are easy going toward others, they project exactly the same image to their interlocutors; they do not differentiate among themselves. And if you do not stand out from the crowd, you protect your own privacy. As the others identify you as one of them, they accept you and do not ask for more information.

We have seen that it is not so much a matter of superficiality that disturbs the French but rather a different conception of the way you must behave their your fellowman. Americans are easy going toward other people, and they treat everybody nicely, with respect. If a French person reads this social behavior as he would in France, he or she is naturally confused because there a conversation means more than what you say: it establishes or maintains a personal relation. That is why the French do not voluntarily speak to anyone as easily as Americans do (cf. *Les Francais* by L. Wilie and J-F Briere, page 68). Nonetheless, if a different way of communicating partly explains why our two peoples experience such a cultural clash, it does not fully explain our different approach of what discussing and arguing are. "You know the story: two Frenchmen meet and one says, '"Ah" and the other says the contrary and then they have a long and perhaps violent discussion. In contrast, two Americans meet and one says '"Ah," and the other says, 'Ah, I see what you mean, and immediately changes the subject,"(*French or foe?*, page 254). What is the point of changing the subject just when it gets interesting? I can testify that whatever your knowledge is of a matter, if you are French, you will certainly try to argue about it, and if you engage a conversation about politics, a long discussion will ensue.

°Conversely, here, the Americans are pretty shy about arguing, sharing their knowledge or trying to understand other conception of the world or the society in an open-minded way. Is it shyness, ignorance, uniformity of opinions, fear of being either different or perceived as offending or disruptive?

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU

MICHAEL JORDAN HOLDS A PRESS CONFERENCE.
AS YOU ALL KNOW, I'M CURRENTLY MAKING A TRANSITION FROM ATHLETE TO BUSINESSMAN...
PART OF THAT IS TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEMS OF OFFSHORE SHOE ASSEMBLY. I'VE HEARD A LOT OF TALK ABOUT NIKE'S SO-CALLED ABUSES, AND NOW IT'S TIME FOR ME TO CHECK IT ALL OUT...
ACCORDINGLY, I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THE FORMATION OF THE 1998 MICHAEL JORDAN ASIAN SWEATSHOP TOUR— SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER.
MICHAEL, WILL THERE BE COMMEMORATIVE APPAREL?
MOST DEFINITELY. IT'S ALREADY IN FINER STORES.
HIS AIRNESS IS ANNOUNCING HIS '98 ASIAN SWEATSHOP TOUR.
MR. JORDAN, WHY DON'T YOU JUST SEND OVER YOUR OWN EXPERT?
I WANT TO CHECK OUT THE SITUATION FOR MYSELF.
WITH THE HELP OF YOUR NIKE HANDLERS?
NO. I DON'T PLAN ON TELLING THEM WHAT'S UP WITH MY SCHEDULE.
1-30
BUT WHAT IF THEY TAIL YOU?
IF NECESSARY, I'LL SHAKE THEM IN A HIGH-SPEED CHASE THROUGH SAIGON. AND I'LL BE WEARING A DISGUISE.
WHEW— THE MAN HAS THOUGHT THIS THROUGH...
ALSO, I'M STUDYING VIETNAMESE.
NEWS OF THE MJ '98 ASIAN SWEATSHOP TOUR REACHES NIKE PLANT #6 IN SAIGON.
MICHAEL JORDAN'S COMING HERE?
WELL, HE'S COMING TO THE REGION. I DON'T KNOW IF WE'RE ON HIS ITINERARY...
WHEN'S HE COMING?
1-31
SOMETIME NEXT SUMMER.
HMM... THAT DOESN'T GIVE ME MUCH TIME TO IMPROVE.
WORKER CONDITIONS?
NO, NO, MY GOLF GAME. IT'S NOT WHERE IT NEEDS TO BE.
OKAY, WHEN MICHAEL GETS HERE, I WANT TO DECLARE A PLANT HOLIDAY AND TAKE HIM TO SAIGON'S BEST GOLF COURSE!
UM... BOSS, I DON'T THINK MR. JORDAN IS GOING TO BE INTERESTED IN GOLF.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
1-22
HE'S COMING TO INVESTIGATE THE WORKER CONDITIONS IN OUR PLANT.
OH. WELL, WHAT ARE THE WORKER CONDITIONS?
THEY'RE DEPLORABLE, OF COURSE.
SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY GOLF IDEA?
SO WHAT'S THE GAME PLAN, BOSS?
WELL, WE'VE GOT TO KEEP MICHAEL DISTRACTED. LET'S HAVE A PARTY. RENT A ROOM AT APOCALYPSE NOW.
AND WE'LL NEED MUSIC. ARE THERE ANY U.S. BANDS SO BAD WE'D TO BE IN TOWN?
JUST DO IT!
NIKE
JUST JIMMY RAY THUDPUCKER. HE DOES THIS JOHN DENVER TRIBUTE ACT NOW.
WHAT KIND OF MUSIC IS THAT?
A25
I BELIEVE IT'S HIP-HOP.
PERFECT. BOOK HIM.
HEY, MIKE, GET THIS— MICHAEL JORDAN'S GOING ON A TOUR OF NIKE FACTORIES!
NO KIDDING? WHEN?
THIS SUMMER...
1-24
THAT DOESN'T GIVE MANAGEMENT AT A CERTAIN PLANT OUTSIDE SAIGON MUCH TIME TO GET ITS ACT TOGETHER!
OKAY, HERE'S THE PLAN— WE FIRE EVERYONE AND FIND HAPPIER WORKERS.
CHECK.

CLASSIFIEDS

Glacier Park, Inc. is looking for students to fill more than 900 summer jobs in all segments of the hotel and hospitality areas at Glacier National Park in northwest Montana. Jobs include a large variety of hotel positions, such as hotel front desk clerks, room attendants, cooks, waitpersons and tour guides and drivers. Many students also participate in guest entertainment.
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For information call 388-6831.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Practice your Spanish!
A double and possibly a single opening in Perkins House (Spanish House) for spring semester.
Call David at x3665 with questions.

Seniors — You may qualify for Special Student status if you have only one or two courses to complete before graduation. To apply for Special Student see Cindy Belanger, Director of Undergraduate Record, in the Dean of Students Office before the end of January.

OVERHEARDS

"I better not melt the rubber; I might get pregnant."
— confused Orgo student

"I hate getting laid."
— a very confused RA

"I've never had anyone salivate in anticipation of hurting me before."
— an unintimidated woman in Painter

Getting it off is easier than getting it on."
— frustrated female in Painter

"Don't question my motives."
"Just question your sanity!"
— 2nd floor Painter conversation

"My ab muscles are killing me from jumping on my partner."
— one-half of a very active ballroom dancing couple

Middlebury student tackles Italian opera 'La Serva Padrona'

By Olive Thomas
Staff Writer

Rian Alfiero, a talented and accomplished Feb senior from Cape Elizabeth, Maine, will be performing Pergolesi's "La Serva Padrona" with Angela Carroll '98 and Stevenson Waltien III '00 on Thursday, January 29, in the Concert Hall at 8:30 PM. This comic opera, which is set in Italy in the eighteenth century, opens with a woman's tricking a man into marrying her. One wonders what the inner workings of a young Italian and music joint major are of someone who decided to pursue opera for his senior project. Alfiero mentioned that at Middlebury, "topics in opera, as far as academics go, are pretty sparse." He maintains that "opera has always sort of been fascinating to me, but I've never studied it...until I took a course here with [Italian Instructor] David Castronuovo." Alfiero's studies have materialized in the form of the comic opera held this week in the Concert Hall. He became interested in singing in seventh grade because "all of my friends...were in the chorus and I wasn't, so...I joined. It was pretty simple." At that age and throughout high school, he stayed in the chorus and never took singing lessons. When he arrived in Middlebury, he took one semester of jazz voice lessons during his sophomore year and didn't start taking classical voice until last J-term. Rian is also a member of the Dissipated 8, in which he helps arrange songs, sings solos, and percussion. It may surprise readers to know that he did not get into this award-winning a cappella group when he auditioned the first time.

Alfiero also plays an array of instruments. He plays the piano, the Native American flute, but "anything after that is more of a hobby instrument...it might be anything from a guitar, bass, drums, to some pretty exotic percussion instruments...anything I can get my hands on." He has been inspired by many artists. He especially holds Bobby McFerrin in high regard and also raves about a jazz duo called Tuck and Patti. Alfiero says that he has a "pretty eclectic taste in music," enjoying music by Pink Floyd, Bela Fleck, and Chopin.

One of the topics that Alfiero spoke most passionately about were the people that most influenced his life. When asked this question, his answer was quick and definite: "My parents. I obviously hold my parents in a very high degree of respect. I love them very much and if I have learned anything throughout college, it's that they are pretty much always right about everything. Which is something that I think everyone dreads learning and then they do...I think that if I had to pick...two people that have certainly directed me well and influenced me in particular ways, that made me who I am, it is those two the most."

Also influencing and changing Alfiero's life was his semester in Florence his junior year. He explained that the experience "did everything that the Junior Year Abroad promises to, which is to make you more independent and...to give you a better sense of self. You find yourself in a new world making your way."

Alfiero thinks that he has taken advantage of a lot of what Middlebury has to offer and has few regrets. He said, "I am tempted to give the same advice that anyone would give and that is 'don't miss an opportunity, do everything that you want to do. Four years seems like a long time but it isn't,"

When asked what advice he would give to first year students, he said, "Appreciate your friends, get to Burlington for a good meal once in a while and don't study on Saturdays unless absolutely necessary. Simply, appreciate every moment."

Dance class 'transcends traditional role'

By Nick Sheets
Staff Writer

Many Middlebury students with little dance experience might have overlooked "Authentic Movement as Contemplative Practice" while selecting a winter term course. However, those who took the plunge and enrolled in the course soon found that "Authentic Movement" transcends the traditional role of dance.

Taught by Dance Professor Andrea Olsen, the course teaches dance as a tool for gaining an understanding of themselves and their connection to the world around them. The course allows students to experimentally learn about concepts traditionally studied in the classroom.

The subject of this unusual course offering is a movement form that combines dance with meditation. Authentic Movement strives to develop and sustain a healthy dialogue between the mind and body. The process involves a mover and a witness. The mover closes his or her eyes and allows the body to follow its own deep movement impulses. The witness watches and observes his or her personal reactions to the motion of the mover.

American dancer Mary Starks Whitehouse started Authentic Movement in the 1930s as an attempt to expand the realm of dance to the non-dancer. Authentic Movement has served as a method for therapeutic healing, a source of creativity and has been taught recently as a contemplative practice. Authentic Movement is offered at several colleges and graduate programs throughout the United States.

This winter term is the first time that Ms. Olsen has taught Authentic Movement at Middlebury. However, she has led Authentic Movement courses elsewhere in the past. Experiential teaching has been a part of Ms. Olsen's work for many years. In the classroom, Ms. Olsen feels it is important to strike a balance between experimental teaching and more traditional text based teaching methods.

A different aspect of Authentic Movement has been studied during each of the four weeks of winter term. In the first week, students primarily assumed the mover role, focusing mainly on their bodies.

Humans commonly view their bodies as objects. In Authentic Movement, the body becomes the subject. Students are taught to let their bodies guide themselves. They learn to observe their own bodies without passing judgment.

For most students, viewing their body as a subject has been a new experience. As one student said, "The only time I ever focused my attention on the sensations of my body was as a result of some injury or strain."

In the second week, the students began to assume the witness role. The students were paired up in partners, and each witnessed the other move for twenty minutes before switching roles. At this time students explored the relationship between mover and witness.

During the third week, the students looked at Authentic Movement in relation to other contemplative practices. Students learned about meditation, and attended the "Dancing on the Land Outdoor Project," a tai-chi performance at the Center for the Arts pond led by Olsen.

Throughout the course, students have attended relevant lectures and dance performances.

Olsen encourages her students to continue with the techniques taught in Authentic Movement as Contemplative Practice on their own even after the course is over.

"On a very practical level," said Ms. Olsen "building contemplative practice into your daily college experience helps to balance your stress." However, Ms. Olsen feels that it is most helpful to experience Authentic Movement in a large group or workshop. She continues to attend Authentic Movement group classes on her own.

When asked whether Authentic Movement can be considered dance, in the traditional sense of the word, she replied: "If you take 'dance' in its inclusive meaning — embodiment of experience and expression back to the community — then yes, it is a dance. The expectation is that it changes how you live your life."

For Noah Hahn '01, "Authentic Movement as Contemplative Practice" was exactly what he was looking for in a winter term course, by being both exciting and relevant.

"I'm extremely glad that I am taking the course. It is immediately applicable to my life. It means something to me right now."

Shades of mediocrity

By Andy Urban
Features Editor

Last night I lay awake in my bed for two hours, pondering the issue of mediocrity. I wondered where I would be in five years, what contributions I would be making in the vast, chaotic system we live in. As the heating pipes contracted and expanded, adding to the pensive ambiance that I had become ensconced in, I questioned whether I would ever be able to leave the comfortable middle grounds of life.

This issue of mediocrity was raised within me about a month ago when I was talking to a good friend of mine. She writes for a literary magazine at Georgetown University, and she commented that although her editors consistently praise her work, they question why all her subject matter seems to deal with mediocrity. I, never being one to miss a chance to quote great musicians, asked her if she felt that, like Simon and Garfunkel, "All my words come back to me, in shades of mediocrity." She, not a big '60s folk music fan, was oblivious and so we drove on.

Yet this simple exchange depressed me later when I thought about it. How are liberal arts students ever supposed to escape the danger of mediocrity, or its evil twins, normalcy and uniformity? How many of us plan to leave college and trade Nietzsche and Blake for bar exams or Hippocratic oaths? Many of us dream of someday writing our opuses to the sound of wind rustling through the olive trees that surround our house in provincial France (or at least that is my dream), but at the same time fear instead that we will spend our afternoons driving the kids to soccer practice at the local suburban high school.

Mediocrity goes beyond vocational preferences or societal standing, it inhibits everything in our lives. Even as I write this article, I fear that my artistic sense is wrapped in mediocrity as well. I will never persevere over the fact that my diction is mediocre, and my ability to arrange words in majestically artistic phrases is limited. My ability to express the deep philosophical concepts that torture me is insufficient. I am confined to basic concepts, or my ideas will be lost in a swarm of meaningless words.

My sister, a sophomore at Cornell University, plans to be a lawyer when she "grows up." I always mock her plan, and assert that it lacks originality or uniqueness, and that although she will probably make tons of money and live a prosperous life, it will be difficult for her soul to find peace in the fact that she has not left some type of imprint on society. Why do I say this? I think it is because disgust with mediocrity is also coupled with insecurity towards one's place in life.

I mean, who am I to say that a lawyer is less important that a writer, or a janitor for that matter? Why try to measure things such as who is more insignificant in the big picture? Yet I find no security and internal peace in settling down to accept mediocrity, I feel that it is still our big picture no matter how insignificant we are.

Another friend and I have a pact that if we are firmly entrenched in suburbia with a nuclear family at the age of 40 or so, we will travel to New York City, get hooked on heroin, and then slowly rot away in a drug-induced bliss. So in the future, don't look for me at your local supermarket, buying the weekly supply of roast beef and rye bread. I will be basking in glory or failure on the dirty boulevards of some dirty European city, influencing minds or losing my own.

I will also continue to look to positive role models who vanquished mediocrity when least expected. Take Paul Gauguin for example. In 1891, Gauguin abandoned his career as a stockbroker and family man to move to Tahiti so he could focus on his true love, painting. I admire that. Not many people have the ability to escape mediocrity. Even fewer have the ability to conquer it.

Aurora Nova Performance

Mark Hamilton

One of the many musical groups on campus in recent days, *Aurora Nova graced the stage at the Center for the Arts last week.*

Controversial new houses complimented for design and location

By Raegan Randolph
Staff Writer

Middlebury's newest architectural gems, the oft-maligned Ridgeline Woods houses, open their doors this month to members of three social houses. Residents of Zeta Theta Phi (the Zoo), Alpha Delta Pi (ADP) and Omega Alpha (the Tavern) are in the process of moving into the houses located on the western edge of campus at the end of Adirondack View. By the end of January house members will have permanently settled into the crown jewels of Middlebury's residential life system — "the showplaces of the college," according to Carl Johnson of Facilities Management.

Each of the four $2.5 million homes was specially designed to meet the needs of the social houses. Each features ample social space that an be locked off from the residential wings during parties as well as keg space and bars. Living quarters accommodate up to 30 house members.

Two architects, Steven Nelson '79 and his partner Jeremiah Eck, designed two of the four unique Ridgeline Woods houses so that the residences would blend into the woodsy environment around them and provide a homey atmosphere for student living.

Who will occupy the fourth house in the Ridgeline development is still undecided. It is possible that the house may be allocated for another social house, most likely Kappa Delta Rho (KDR). It may also become available as senior housing. There is space in the area for construction of four more houses, but the college does not yet know if it will pursue such construction.

In explaining why the Ridgeline Woods houses were designated for use by the social house system Secretary of Renovations for the SGA John Felton '99 said, "The college made a commitment to the social houses to build them better housing."

The Board of Trustees approved the addition of ADP and the Zoo to the social house system more than five years ago but could only offer two off-campus residences, Homestead and Jewett, to the new houses. Permanent housing was promised at the time.

The location of the Ridgeline Woods houses is also an important reason for their development, as the social houses will be in an area where late-night activities will not disturb townspeople and students will not have to commute as far to reach them. Additionally, the potential for drunk driving is eliminated.

Felton feels that having the three social houses clustered together in their own "neighborhood" is a positive factor, for it will make party hopping much easier and safer. "I am hoping security won't put a camp up there," said Felton of his only concern for the new area.

The town approved the construction of the houses after discussions with the college concerning the environmental preservation of the woods and the impact of having a "fraternity row" of sorts in the area.

"The town and college worked together to resolve those issues," explained Director of Residential Life Kathy Ebner '87, "and the area was planned to preserve the woods." Also, said Ebner, the college has since purchased many of the houses along Adirondack View, the public road which dead-ends into the Ridgeline Woods development, so as not to burden the surrounding townspeople with college traffic and activities.

Felton warned that with the amount of people who attend social house parties, "The college should realize the houses ... will not stay pristine." Ebner hopes that the beautiful new homes will foster a greater sense of responsibility in the members of the social houses who occupy them. The Zoo hosted its first big party last weekend and according to member Sarah Hall '99, "There was no major damage [to the house]." Hall said that the members of Zoo are very protective of their new dwelling. "We want to show the school we are capable of keeping our house nice."

Each of the Ridgeline Woods houses is named after a member of the current Board of Trustees. The Zoo resides in the Palmer House, Tavern in the Brackett House and ADP in the Prescott House.

The Brackett House, designed by Eck features peaked windows and roofs with green accents. Inside there is a fireplace, vaulted ceilings and several windows that let in abundant light. The bedrooms are arranged along hallways forming two wings from the central living space.

On the western edge of the woods overlooking the valley sit the Prescott and Palmer Houses designed by Middlebury graduate Nelson.

Both have grayish-blue exteriors, white columns and gray stone foundations. Fireplaces, wood paneling and bedrooms arranged in suites typify the inside of each house.

"It's a big improvement over the old house," claimed Hall who lives in one of the suites in Palmer House. "This is the nicest room I have ever had on campus."

Ebner remains confident that the new houses will be a success for the college. She enthused that "Ridgeline shows, in a fabulous way, the college's commitment to improve residential life at the college."

Mark Hamilton

Preparations for Tavern's move included wrapping up the house's composite photograph.

VSO elects new members to board

By Siti Masturah Ismail
Staff Writer

Last week the Volunteer Services Organization (VSO) meeting saw the elections of new members to its Executive Board. Seniors Karu Kozuma '98 and Julia Shreve '98 are officially handing down their respective positions of President and Vice-President. Kozuma and Shreve are making way for "new blood" in the form of Jen LaBrecque '00 who will provide the organization with its new leadership.

Kozuma and Shreve reflect on the changes that the organization has gone through since they first became involved as freshmen. "There was no Executive Board during my first semester here," recalled Kozuma, "The organization was made up of about 10 core members who meet regularly over dinner to discuss volunteer opportunities in Middlebury." Currently, about 25 students consistently attend the weekly Monday meetings in Mitchell Green Lounge.

"VSO became more structured as more students showed interest and came up with new initiatives," observed Shreve. "The [current] senior class has played a monumental role in this, and their contributions to the organization should not be overlooked."

The VSO supports student initiatives in community service by providing the needed manpower and assistance to launch pilot projects. The organization acts as an informational vehicle, announcing existing volunteer opportunities and needs of the community with the aim of getting more students involved as active citizens. For those looking for short-term commitments, the VSO organizes a worksite every weekend.

Those wanting to commit themselves to a more regular program can be matched with the many special-interest organizations in Addison County. One such program that has proven to be popular with Middlebury students is Community Friends. A guidebook listing various volunteer organizations in the Middlebury area is available in the Student Activities Office.

"The great thing about VSO is its flexibility in involvement," said Kozuma. "Everyone has ideas and the energy to move the organization in new directions. Such flexibility allows space for changes to happen."

Change is what LaBrecque has in mind as she prepares for her tenure as president. The new board plans to expand leadership opportunities within the VSO to encourage members to plan and execute their own community service projects. There is also talk of networking with like-minded organizations on campus and for greater participation in Addison County through more long-term commitments. In addition, the weekend worksites will be improved to meet the needs of the community better.

Shreve is optimistic of the overall future of the organization. "It feels like VSO is going through another significant stage in its growth. More are taking on leadership roles. It's very exciting. I look forward to participating in some of the worksites already."

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with jalapenos and salsa.
We will also provide you with the
following iron clad excuse
for not getting your
work done on time.

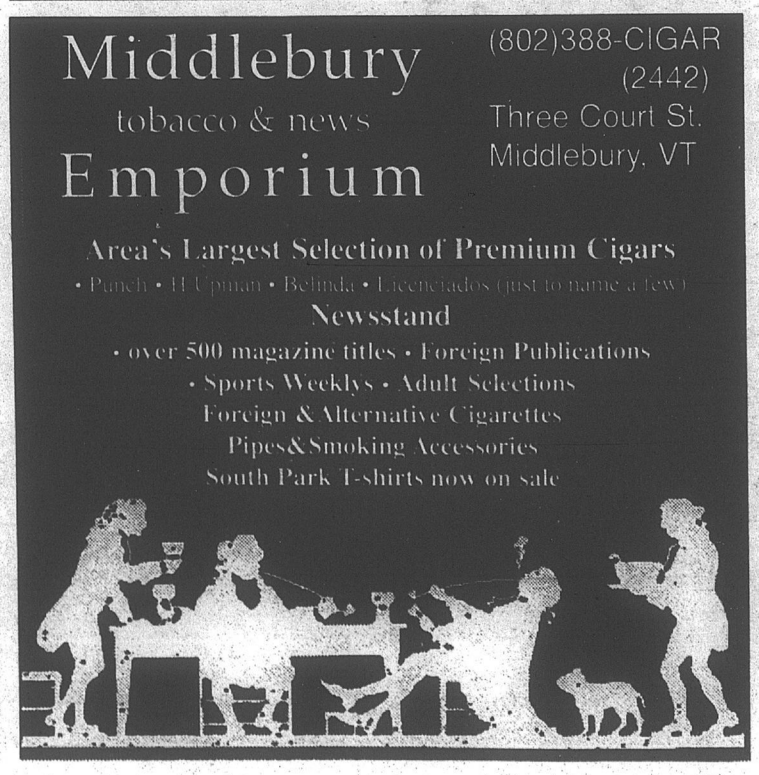
To whom it may concern,

This is to excuse _____from today's homework / exam / paper as s/he was in Mister Up's last night. We were discussing all the interesting things s/he has learned in your class and before we knew it, it was 2 a.m. Please forgive me as it is my fault the homework / exam / paper was not completed. I promise it will never happen again.

Sincerely,

General Manager

Valid any night of the week
expires 2/31/98



Student-compiled guide conquers Montreal in one single day

By Tanya Boudakian
Staff Writer

O, Canada! In the event that our French-speaking geographic neighbor has been unable as yet to seduce you onto her territory, it is now time to see exactly what those imitation Montreal Smoked Meat Sandwiches in Proctor are supposed to taste like. I am proposing four different itineraries for the day-tripping Middlebury students looking to get away for part of the weekend:

Suggestion #1: "Dad's credit card has no limit."

I would suggest leaving Middlebury as early as possible (around 10 a.m.) in order to allow yourself plenty of shopping time. Put the car in a parking garage for the day and either walk or use the excellent public transportation system. Montreal's metro (built in 1966) is just a fraction of the massive underground city that is the home of such places as an ice rink, hotels and movie theaters.

Once you orient yourself in both the above- and below-ground cities that are Montreal, feel free to go wild. Le Centre Eaton is a good starting point. Not only is the largest department store in Montreal located there, but hundreds of other smaller boutiques as well. Other big stores include La Baie and Ogilvy, but you can also find anything along Ste-Catherine Street, Rue University and Rue de la Gauchetière. I also recommend the store Le Château for all your clubbing outfit needs.

If shopping wears you down, you may want to drop by Vieux Montreal and take a walk along the cobblestone streets. Or if it's your stomach that's directing, I would suggest dinner closer to downtown on Crescent Street at the very hip (and very loud) Italian restaurant Weinstein and Gavino's Pasta Bar Factory Restaurant Incorporated. A long name, but always a good time.

Suggestion #2: "Party, party, party—enjoy the drinking age while you can."

Since you'll most likely be hungover from the night before, you may as well sleep in late. Leave Middlebury around 4 and get to Montreal in the early evening, with a possible pit stop at the casino (which, according to Fodor's, is one of the "biggest gambling palaces in the world"). A little debauchery now and then never hurt anyone, right?

If you haven't gambled your life away, go where your stomach leads you. If you like Indian food, there's a nice and affordable restaurant off of Ste-Catherine Ouest near Peel St. called "Allo Inde." If that doesn't excite you, do a little wandering either in this area or in the Latin Quarter by St. Denis which is further east. A hotbed of nighttime activity with enough bars and clubs to satisfy your cravings for the evening, you could conceivably club hop until 10 the next morning, grab breakfast and be back in Middlebury by noon.

Suggestion #3: "The Sports Fan."

Seeing that hockey is a religion in Canada, you may as well catch a Canadiens game while you're in town. Your favorite team might be playing the Habs when you're in town - even if they play in the new Molson Arena instead of the Forum. You can basically get tickets up until a few days before a game, but the seats likely won't be together. (Call Admissions: 1-800-361-4595.)

For a 1:30 p.m. game, leave Middlebury around 9:30 a.m., park in town away from the arena (especially if your license plates are New Jersey and the Devils are in town...) and either walk or take the metro to the game.

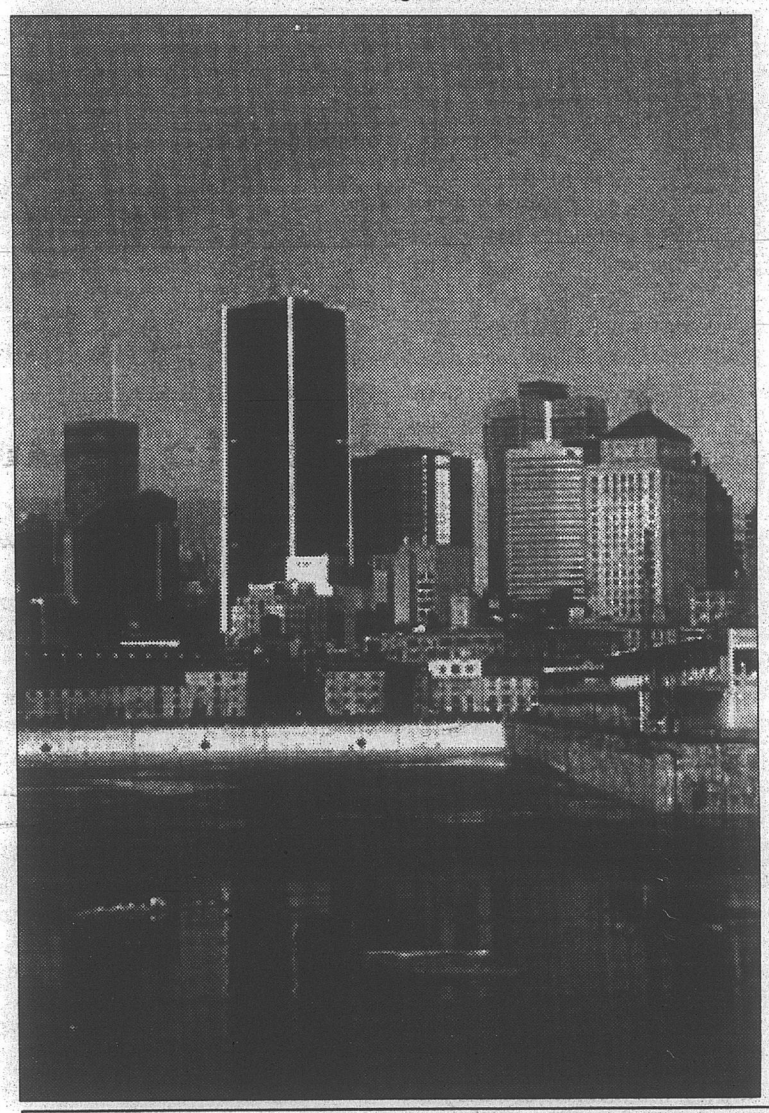
Suggestion #4: "The random and sketchy traveler."

1. Insectarium. (Jardin Botanique) If you go in February, you may be lucky enough to sample the unique taste of deep fried bumblebees.

2. Bens Delicatessen. (990 Blvd. de Maisonneuve Ouest) If the interesting smell of the place doesn't make you sick, perhaps the thought of ingesting a mammoth smoked meat sandwich on white bread will. Supposedly the most famous of all Montreal Delis, Ben's yellow and green interior deco à la the 1950's is worth a side trip.

3. Club X. (Crescent Street) They may be playing cool music from the outside, but inside it's nothing more than a scene from a Canadian "Saved by the Bell" episode. If you enjoy watching the 20-something bartender get his groove on behind the bar while men past their prime try and dance with a 16-year-old Spice Girl-wannabe, then this is the place for you.

Whatever kind of traveler you are, Montreal is sure to have something to your fancy. So get into your car: Montreal awaits you.



Thirty-year resident affects many lives

Cerebral Palsy patient needs new volunteers, tutors to help

Kristine Palmero
Features Editor

It is perhaps too easy at Middlebury College, with its skiing, snowboarding, five-minute runs to Twilight, and Friday night DJ dances, to take our mobility for granted. Butch Vamo is a Middlebury resident who is stricken with cerebral palsy, a disease that afflicts approximately 500,000 infants and adults in the United States.

Cerebral palsy is congenital, non-communicable and affects body movement and muscle coordination. Vamo wants Middlebury students to know how lucky they are.

Vamo, who has been part of the College community for over thirty years, receives physical therapy and tutoring from Middlebury students. To help alleviate the discomfort caused by tight muscles, cerebral palsy patients must have their muscles stretched and massaged.

However, the last of Butch's physical therapy volunteers, Ike Davis '98.5, graduates this weekend. Although Davis said that he was able to recruit one volunteer, Butch needs more help.

To help Butch stretch, no past experience is necessary. He is looking for a male volunteer. The time commitment is only forty-five minutes to an hour each week. Davis found out about Butch in the fall of 1993 when he saw a poster. There was a surge of volunteers in 1993 and the spring of 1994, but these volunteers graduated last spring and he is again in need of more help.

Vamo said of his therapy, "There's no pain, but I need people to stretch me out. I am looking for students who are confident, who know what they're doing, and smart enough that I'm sensitive [about some areas.] It's a very substantial experience for the kids too, for them to learn how I live. Vamo is currently working towards his General Equivalency Diploma (GED) with the help of his three tutors, all Middlebury students. Katie Tumer '00 tutors Vamo in reading. Vamo also receives lessons in geography and math.

"It wasn't easy starting, [but] I know I'm smart enough to get my GED," said Vamo of his lessons. Vamo recalled recent Middlebury graduate Brad Schinkels '97, who has a milder form of cerebral palsy yet next fall will begin medical school.

" [Schinkels] is inspiring because he believed that I could do things. We talked on the phone a lot and he knows what I feel inside, in my rubber gut." he said.

Animated and talkative, Vamo spends his time listening to murder mystery book tapes, watching the news, which he argues passionately about, and visiting in the town. He also loves flying kites and going to the A&W for rootbeer floats.

However, the one thing Vamo loves best is attending Middlebury athletic events. He especially enjoys watching men and women's basketball, football and ice hockey. The football team team takes him to see basketball games and vice versa.

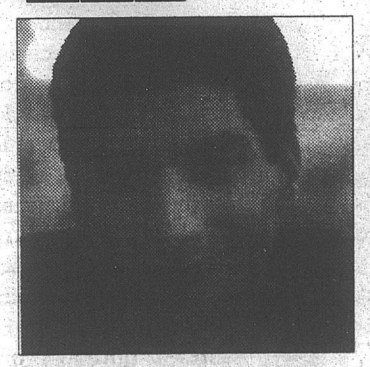
Athletic director Russ Reilley, who has known Vamo for 21 years and with whom he has developed a strong friendship, commented that, "Butch has a tremendous amount of love for the people at Middlebury College who over the years have given a tremendous amount of their time to those less fortunate than us."

Reilley added, "Tom Lawson, my predecessor, was the one who got Butch actively involved in our athletic program, beginning with our basketball program. Since then, Butch has taken up the baton and has become an important part of our games. He gets and gives a great amount of involvement and support by attending our hockey, basketball, and football games."

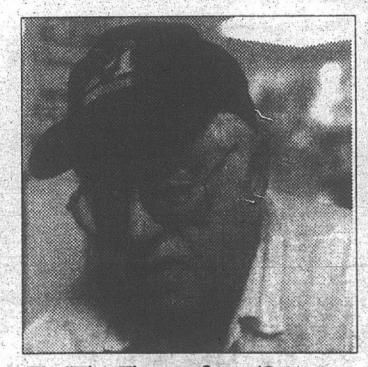
Those interested in volunteering should contact Tiffany Sargent in Student Employment or Vamo's physical therapist Davis or tutor Turner. Said Davis of his time with Vamo, "If anybody wants a rewarding experience, this is it."

CAMPUS VOICES

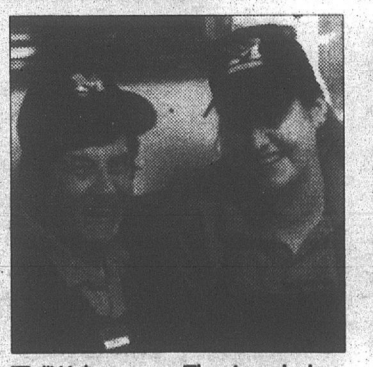
If you made a Middlebury movie, what would be the theme song?



■ "Why Don't We Get Drunk and Screw."
— Tom Langsdorf '00



■ "The Theme from 'Summer Place."
— Bill Jimmo



■ "Welcome to The Jungle by Guns 'n Roses."
— Rita Pelkey and Heather Merrill

■ "Dancing Queen."
— Amanda Cecil '01

Compiled by David Barreda

Photos by David Barreda

Religion lectures enlighten audiences

By Andrea Yevuta
Staff Writer

Held in conjunction with the cluster of J-term courses centering on issues of religion and the arts, the biannual Scott Symposium honors Charles Scott, professor emeritus, former college chaplain, and founder of the Middlebury College Religion Department.

This winter's symposium featured five lectures by leaders in their respective fields, followed by a panel discussion among the participants. Speaking first on Friday was Richard Brilliant, introduced by Middlebury Religion professor and Dean of Faculty, Robert Schine. Brilliant has been a professor of the humanities at Columbia since 1970 and is a noted art historian of classical antiquity. The broad theme of his talk was "Judaism and the Arts," though Brilliant began his lecture by suggesting that "There is no such thing as Jewish art." Specifically, he focused on the evolution of the synagogue from ancient times to the present. As synagogues grew, Brilliant asserted, they differed increasingly from the Jewish Temple, but retained the centrality of the Jewish arc. Most important in the Jewish synagogue was the sense of awe inspired by the opening of the arc and reading of the scrolls. While Brilliant addressed the various architecture styles of Jewish synagogues, ending with a mid-western synagogue that was virtually indistinguishable from a Christian church, he emphasized the centrality of the scrolls.

Cynthia Atherton, Middlebury professor of Art History and symposium speaker, introduced Oleg Grabar, her advisor in graduate school as "celebrated, distinct, glorious, majestic, and significant" to name just a few of her many accolades. Grabar has written many books and articles while acting as a professor at both Harvard and Princeton, where he currently resides. He spoke on the relationship between Islam and the arts, a subject on which many of his books have focused. In his lecture, he focused on the points that the practice of Islam does not necessarily elicit art and that the inspiration for Islamic art came from outside the mechanism of faith. Through calligraphy, geometry, and the representation of man, Islamic art is imaginative, forcing the viewer to make his or her own moral decision about the image. "The remarkable achievement of Islamic art," said Grabar, "is to have compelled the fundamental questions of Islamic art because theology did not need art."

On Saturday, Susan Huntington, Ohio State University professor, lectured on Buddhism and the arts, focusing her discussion on ten themes in Buddhist art. According to Huntington, "The visual arts are central to the communication of Buddhist ideals...essential to Buddhist knowledge and the attainment of Buddhist spiritual goals." Buddhist art aids and illustrates the rituals and practice of Buddhist religion in addition to providing visual enjoyment. The Buddhist act of darsan, literally "seeing," is a beneficial experience even if the viewer does not completely understand the art. Buddhist art is an attempt to transcend the boundaries between male and female and the various attributes of different people.

John Cook's speech on "Christianity and the Arts", spanned the faiths of Roman Catholicism, Protestantism, and Eastern Orthodoxy as he asserted that Christianity and Christian art is an increasingly individual experience. Throughout their existence, Christian traditions have invented ways for art to serve their purposes. The baptismal chamber of ancient Roman house churches and the utilitarian stadium-like churches of the modern era are exemplary of this idea. Though Christian churches have changed from the elaborate designs in the Renaissance to the simple Puritan church, showing how individuality has become the Christian God, claimed Cook.

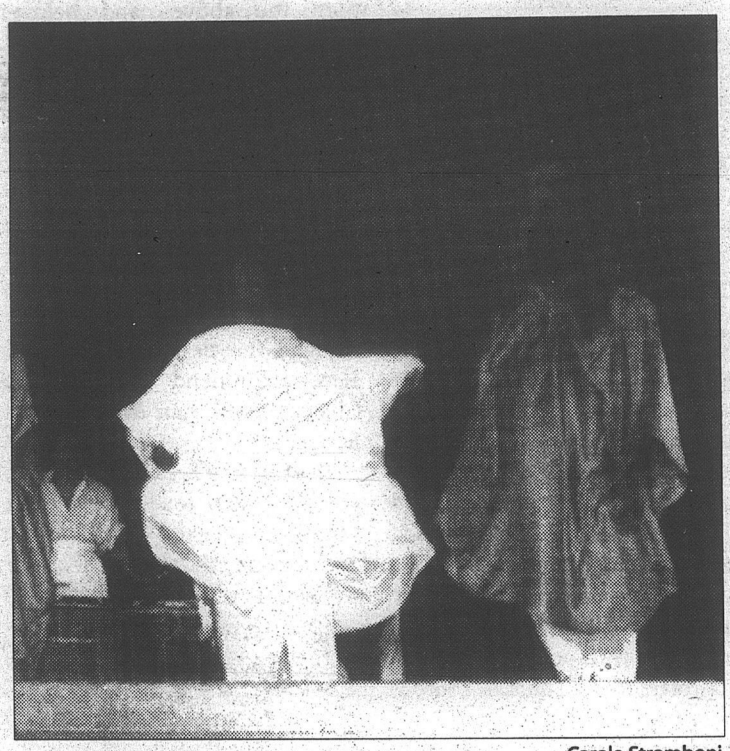
Religion professor Larry Yarbrough introduced Atherton, who was somewhat apprehensive of her place amongst the participants. Her lecture on Hinduism and the arts, however, was very well-received by the audience as a closing speech before the panel presentation. She began with the statement, "Without the arts, there is no Hinduism," an interesting way to end the lectures since Brilliant spoke of the lack of Jewish art. Hindu temples and deities are emblematic of the importance placed on vision in Hinduism. The devotees of Hinduism gain understanding through their viewing of the deities. She focused specifically on representations of Krishna, one of the many Hindu gods and known as protector as well as being playful and loving. In the elaborate dressing and caring for the images of Krishna, Atherton asserted that "Hinduism is unabashed in its overt appeal to the senses."

During the panel portion of the symposium, the lecturers addressed the questions of "What happens to art when it is placed in a museum or studied?" and "What questions should art historians and religious scholars be asking themselves", both of which were asked by Yarbrough.

Differing on many of the specifics, each panelist asserted that religion and the arts are connected, with no consensus between the panelists as to how close the connection was. Because of their varied interests and backgrounds, the panelists provided some of the most interesting discussion when they addressed one another.

The Scott Symposium in two years will address the subject of religion and politics. Due to recent political developments, it could be a fascinating event.

Dance of the Tree



Carole Stromboni

The vivid and imaginative *Dance of the Tree took over the McCullough stage for a performance last Saturday.*

Dancers create 'rooms' and 'boxes' of movement

By Eve-Lyn S. Hinckley
Staff Writer

Last weekend, The Dance Company of Middlebury performed "Dream Boxes," part one of the Company's three-year project experimenting with movement and theme set to an original musical score by Michael Chorney.

The members of the Company, Alison Donley, '98, Kim Havens, '99, Katherine Hsu, '98, Melissa Loeben, '98, Shruthi Mahalingaiah, '98, Martha Shay, '98, and Mark Stuver, '97.5, perform under the artistic direction of Peter Schmitz. This piece, "Dream Boxes," is the focus of their shows at Middlebury and on tour during 1998.

The bare stage had a stark quality accompanied only by pale white lighting and several standing poles. Even the side curtains of the studio were pulled back from the stage to emphasize the open space.

For the duration of the piece, the dancers remained on stage: moving easily through the transitions of the piece's nine sections and the changing angles of light and positioning of the poles. Each dancer was dressed in flowing, gauzy shirts and pants of silver, gold, and white tones.

This gave a transparent, nineteenth-century illusion to the work. At times, they recited portions of text from Sarah Messer and the letters of Joseph Cornell, Schmitz, and others.

I enjoyed the way in which all of these elements worked and moved together in space: at times we were watching a few dancers moving beyond other Company members who were standing still, at other times, half of the group was dancing while the others were tucked into the shadows of the poles. This added to the suggestion that Schmitz and the dancers were trying to create different "rooms" or "boxes."

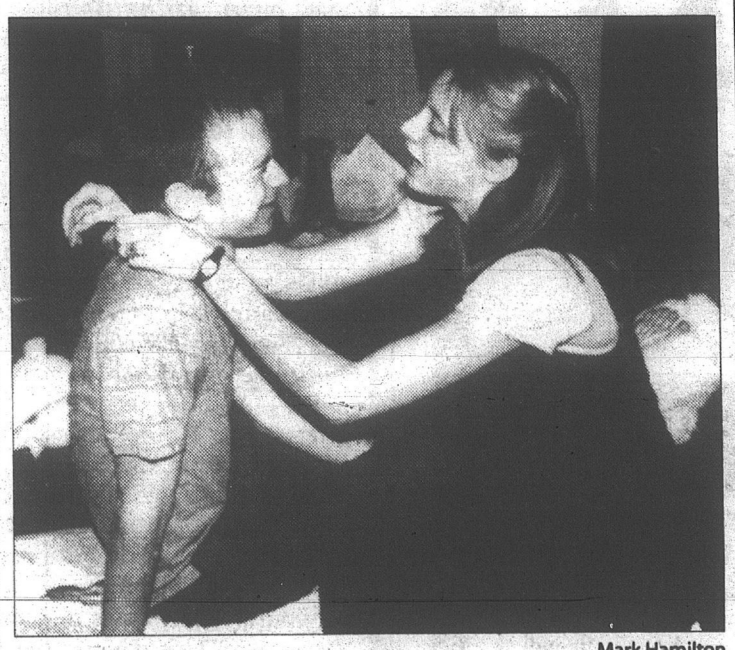
The fluidity of the piece extended to some of the relationships that built as the different "boxes" were stacked one upon the other. While so much of modern dance is open to interpretation — this piece is no exception — it is wonderful when the audience can pick out threads that wind throughout the whole. I enjoyed watching the relationships that seemed to evolve between dancers, namely between Hsu, Loeben, and Stuver.

Their repetition of movements and intent carried through the entire performance.

At the end, Loeben and Stuver's partnering was especially noteworthy since it maintained a high level of energy and athletics — this intesity was reminscent of the piece that Stuver choreographed, "The Hesitation Tendency," which

(see Stage, page 16)

Home Free



Mark Hamilton

The Homeless Theater Junkies, *Middlebury's wandering acting troupe, staged "Home Free" last weekend.*

Students learn to teach through art

By Jeff Price
Staff Writer

At the least, Sandra Olivo and Lisa Beck are greatly pleased with themselves. Olivo and Beck are teaching students enrolled in the college how to teach elementary school students through art. The class is for those students interested in teacher education and it demands time from its enrollees. But the two women feel that the time spent could not be more worthwhile, for those who desire a future in elementary school teaching. They are very modest about their J-term course, "Children and the Arts." Modest, in the sense, that they are not.

Sandra Olivo is the Curator of Education at the Middlebury College Museum of Art. She brings the artistic expertise. Lisa Beck is an Elementary Education Coordinator. She brings to the college classroom the elementary school teaching skills. The teaching tandem does not educate the aspiring teachers alone. They have brought in the specific skills of Andrea Olsen, Professor of Dance, for a class on "body tracing," an activity the college students were allowed to rediscover and one which young children undoubtedly enjoy. They have sought out the talent of Jackie Torrence, a professional storyteller, taking their class on a three and a half-hour journey to the Flynn Theatre in Burlington. The artistic avenues through which the students are trained to teach range from drama to music to story telling. The classroom material includes various children's art books. Past creations that have for years captivated adult minds are displayed above captions printed in large, round typeset from which the Middlebury students are taught to teach.

Olivo and Beck have specified portrait work as the focus of their artistic teachings. The first day of class this J-term, each student had a facial portrait taken. The students then mounted their faces on long white sheets of paper and drew the remainder of their bodies in bright colors, surrounding their caricatures with personal information along the lines of favorite food, family information and place of origin. The following day, the Middlebury students used their creations to introduce themselves to the children of Middlebury in whose classroom they had

(see Art, page 17)

'Don Juan in Hell' flourishes trademark Romagnoli touches

By Thaya Brook
Arts Editor

Courtesy Photo

Rich Price as Don Juan, Andrew Smith as The Statue, Tyson Lien as The Devil, and Stephanie Janssen as Dona Ana.

If any one thing can be said of last weekend's production of "Don Juan in Hell," it is that, right from the opening image of red light rushing upward, and a crashing swell of music mixed with the nonchalant Don Juan tossing a coin into a fountain, it is truly signature Romagnoli. One might expect that a play with Don Juan as its title character would provide more stories of love and sexual conquest, as in Professor Richard Romagnoli's last Middlebury production, "Camille," however, anyone supposing that would have been disappointed. The swelling music and rich drapery was still there, but this time was the background for George Bernard Shaw's intellectual banter and philosohpical argument and the passion came from the fervrent debates, not from any tinges of lovesickness.

The fourth of the five acts of Shaw's "Man and Superman," "Don Juan in Hell" is the story of the meeting of Don Juan (Richard Price, '99.5) and his former love, Do–a Ana (Stephanie Janssen, '99) in hell. Do–a Ana's father (Andrew Smith, '97.5), as old army commander, shows up, too, as does, inevitably, the Devil (Tyson Lien, '98). Do–a Ana, the newcomer, is shocked to find herself, a devout Catholic, in hell. Don Juan explains that hell and heaven are both equally nice places to be, depending on what sort of person you are.

This meeting, however, is simply the pretext for the series of ideas presented by Don Juan and discussed by the other men. Hell is rather like a Victorian men's club, with Do–a Ana as the unfortunate woman who happens to stumble in and overhear the men's side of things.

The discussion ranges over all of the massive issues, from life and death to heaven and hell. As one might expect from the sheer weight of these topics, the language is at once heavy and fast moving.

Such material requires the utmost skill of all four actors: from the actor playing Don Juan, who must communicate these ideas and hold the audience's attention with them, and from the other three in keeping rapt attention throughout. On the whole, the cast of this production achieved this. However, Price did not stay as focused at all times as the role required. Several audience members mentioned afterward that they often lost track of the arguments presented. The material, as I have said, is thick and difficult, however, the students and faculty of Middlebury are intelligent people and it is unlikely that another production would find such a prime audience. Still, the sense of the character and his restless search for the meaning of the afterlife was clear and well-presented.

Smith, as the Commander, was, perhaps, the best casting seen at Middlebury all year. Smith's height evoked the posture of the military man, as did his concious stillness. His arm, which was in a sling due to a real-life injury, looked like an old war wound, especially with the armless sleeve that hung at his side. This imposing stature contrasted well with the character's almost constant confusion, which Smith played admirably.

Finally, something must be said of the set and lights, which were designed by Middlebury Alumni Josh Bradford, '93, and Anne Brahic, '94, respectively. What made this show so visually impressive was the way in which Brahic and Bradford used each other's media to enhance their own. The finest example of this harmony was the curtain that hung on the four corners of the stage. Made of cheap black fabric, they were illuminated from below with red light. The result was that they seemed to be made of thick, rich crimson velvet, far more beautiful than any real velvet might have been. Also, the fountain at the centre of the stage changed over the course of the play from a dusky golden to a radiant silver, all through the lights in it and above it.

From curtain to curtain call, the production was visually stunning. However, it seems the rehearsal may have been a bit short for such a complex piece.

'King Kong' finds home at Johnson

By Josh Fisher
Staff Writer

Those of us who have seen the area in front of the Johnson Art Building recently may have noticed a change. Or maybe not, for it is Jules Olitski's sculpture King Kong, a small, unassuming piece, that has brought about this change. The sculpture, constructed out of corten steel, is difficult at best to notice by a mere casual glance, unlike the George Rickey with which it shares the space in front of Johnson, its visual opposite in every way. While Rickey's steel sculpture is burnished so that it sparkles and shines dramatically in the sun, the Olitski is black, and positioned in a spot that is not very well lit. While the Rickey practically shouts for your attention, both by its size, and by the fact that it is constantly in motion, being blown about by the wind, the Olitski is completely static and, measuring only five feet high, shorter than most viewers (i.e. college students).

Why then is the work called King Kong, a name conjuring up images of gargantuan power, when Rickey's sculpture makes it look like a baboon? The explanations abound. Professor John Hunisak of the History of Art department thinks that "it looks as though it's been clawed by a gorilla," referring to the notches on both the top and bottom edges of the outer steel ring. These same notches also make the sculpture resemble a paw. Also, the name may perhaps have to do with the fact that this sculpture is actually larger than many of Olitski's earlier pieces, which included crumpled elliptical works lying on the ground, no more than a foot high, looking like giant aluminum cans that someone smashed against his forehead and left on the ground like a piece of litter. King Kong, therefore, represents a breakthrough in Olitski's sculpture, both in terms of size and in the way it firmly commands the space, almost daring us to enter its domain, another possible explanation for the title.

The sculpture, part of a series of so-called "tub sculptures" by Olitski, seems partly inspired by Minimalism, a sculptural movement popular in the 1960's. Its squat proportions and direct placement on the ground remind one of the work of Donald Judd, one of the more well-known Minimalist sculptors, and its format of one steel ring inside another is, in fact, currently being explored, albeit in a larger format, by another sculptor of the Minimalist era, Richard Serra, in his new work entitled Double Torqued Ellipse, currently on view at the Dia Center for the Arts in New York City.

King Kong, however, clearly has a different purpose than Minimalist works. Kenworth Moffett, in a book on Olitski's art, writes that

(see Installation, page 17

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'Cécile' inhibited by few rehearsals

By Kirk German
Staff Writer

On the first Sunday evening before J-term commenced, a group of unnamed friends was playing the game "Scattergories". The category was "Things that you're afraid of" and the letter was "F". One player's acerbic answer: "French Farces set in the Future." (True story.) What this anonymous player was referring to was the at-that-time forthcoming production of Jean Anouilh's "Cecile —(or The School for Fathers)," which everyone present knew had the unorthodox design concept of being set in 2098. This person's response was not intended as vindictive (one hopes), but rather as an echo to the doubts that a number of theatregoers harbor when a play is taken out of its intended temporal context and is reassigned to a completely different epoch. Furthermore, to set a period piece in a semi-surrealistic future is a particularly bold step; the creative team must work very closely to ensure that it is a conscious decision, one that in some way functions to enhance or unify the piece so that it doesn't come across as an arbitrary element, detached from the rest of the show.

Fortunately, when "Cecile" had its run last week, the gamble paid off and the choice worked (certainly 'twas nothing to be afraid of). Costume designer Anna L. Benvenuto, '00, set designer Matt Soule, '00.5 and lighting designer David Barreda, '00, created an extraordinary blend of craftily time-altering styles, coupled with colors ranging from purest white to luscious lavender to citrus punch to midnight black, all of which made for a uniformly delicious and fascinating visual experience. If their strangely believable world is prophetic, 100 years from today will be rich with an unexpected and unique aesthetic.

One reason that the "space age" atmosphere succeeded might be that the script, although set during the reign of Louis XV, was in fact written only 45 years ago and is itself a reflection of a bygone era. Taking a 1770s story, written in the 1950s, and placing it in the 2090s actually gave the show an intriguing new layer which made one think more closely about the timelessness of many of its themes, among them the mores of desire, lives fraught with paradox, and a challenging of gender stereotypes throughout Western society.

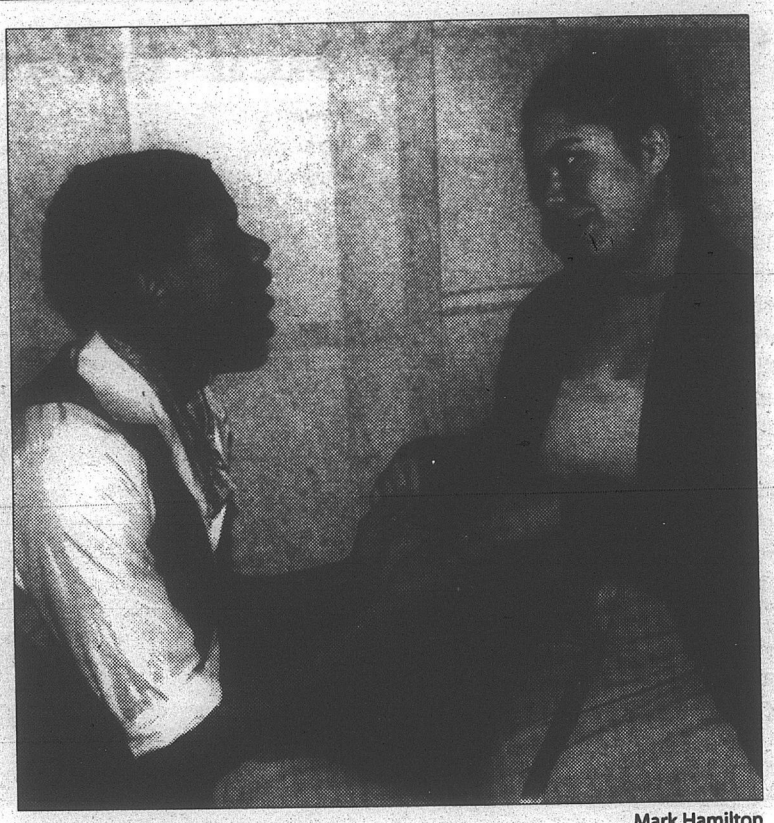
Of course, these ideas are all present as undercurrents to "Cecile"'s frothy surface. Perhaps it was because of the scant two-and-a-half week rehearsal period, but somehow this inherent farcical nature never really came to its full fruition until the final "nighttime" scene of the evening. Who knows, with a few more weeks of examination and experimentation, "Cecile" might have discovered its potential to become a little more outrageous.

In his program notes, director Matthew Landfield, '98.5 (for whom this was a 500 project) suggests that there is "a darker side to 'Cecile'" which is "stark yet penetrating." No doubt. But were moments naturally lent to high comedy (moments that could have been riotously funny) sacrificed to a heavier-handed treatment because of this "stark penetration"?

This is not to say that the show lacked humor. Certainly there were a number of quite satisfying chuckles, especially as a result of the impeccable comic timing of Carlos Fenwick, '00, as the ardent Chevalier, Sam Elmore, '00.5, as the aging Monsieur Damiens (whose stage time was disappointingly short), and Erin Carr ,'00, as the sassy Araminthe, all of whom were in tune with the over-the-top nature of many of their lines. Fenwick and Elmore were especially effective in caricaturing the randiness of the male species. Carr, who proved herself to be a strong comedic force with her spontaneous narcolepsy in "Ivanov" last fall, made Araminthe's awareness that she is in a ridiculous comedy work nicely; she brought things to a bitingly satirical climax in a hilarious final moment best described as a Governess-Ex-Machina. Morgan Bicknell, '01, as the dulcet title character, and Ryan Palsrok, '01 and Charles Wetherill, '01, as two bungling sentries ("the only two body guards in our little town") did their jobs well and will no doubt contribute much to this department in the years to come. But audiences who remember being floored by Landfield's adeptly deadpan hilarity in "Arcadia" and "Philadelphia Story" may have questioned why his proven funny and capable hand was less apparent.

Actually, audiences may have questioned first and foremost why Andrew Whyte, '98, was cast as the oxymoronic Orlas (who is arguably the main character) while Fenwick and Elmore (and even Palsrok and Wetherill) were left to fill less pivotal roles. Whyte found one note to strike —supreme agitation— and struck that single note solidly through the entire performance. Perhaps he should be recognized (not exactly commended) for his tirelessness (not exactly for his energy), for he raved about the stage with wild eyes and contorted finger gesticulations without any signs of fatigue! While this may be a fortuitous warning that Kramer should not get his own spin-off series once "Seinfeld" disbands, the ultimate result was that many humorous and allusory moments became a jumble of throw-away lines. His two best moments (once, when he took a breath to admonish Araminthe gently for mocking him, and also at the show's beginning, when he played the guitar silently) were genuinely engaging and were a welcome shift in tone.

One could go on indefinitely about any play and its need for more polish once all is said and done; however, there are many important things to celebrate about "Cecile", not the least of which is that it was a diverting J-term entertainment and was a distinctly unique (there's that word again) vehicle for fostering thought about a number of important issues. Undoubtedly, each member of this overall talented ensemble will bring something away with them which will enrich their next artistic endeavor and which will likewise serve to enrich Middlebury audiences far into the Future, a time which, personally, I hope always remains ripe for the setting of French Farces.



Mark Hamilton

Cecile's Arimenthe and Chevalier.

Stage contrasts relationships in dance

(continued from page 14)

he danced last weekend with Christina Guillette, '97. Other dancers brought trademark contributions to the piece which we have seen from them at other Middlebury performances. For instance, Haven showed again her clean, classical precision through arm and leg movement.

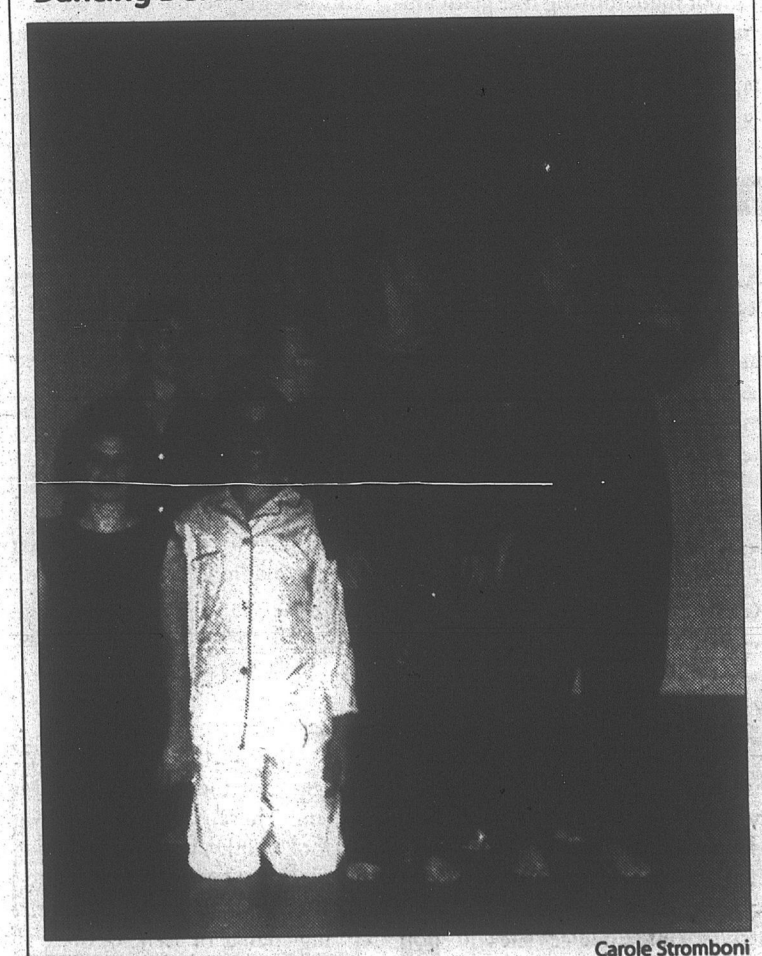
As a group, the dancers seemed to be very aware of one another's space on the stage; a lot of times the choreography demanded them to be moving solely, yet in the same time frame as others. During these instances, I enjoyed the fast movement and weight exchanges that they achieved.

However, at the times when the dancers were supposed to be doing the same movements in unison, I felt that the timing could have been coordinated more smoothly. Failure to do this made the piece seem unpolished at points.

Overall, I found the group connection and artistic bravery of the Company's performance of "Dream Boxes" to be very impressive.

I look forward to experiencing the rest of this project as it builds and takes shape over the next three years under Schmitz's artistic wings and the ever-changing creative body of The Dance Company of Middlebury.

Dancing Dervishes



Carole Stromboni

Mark Stuver '97.5 *and his fellow dancers reveal the startling agility of dancers in the Center for the Arts.*

Arts Smarts

Performances

Wednesday, January 28

7:30 p.m.
Theater/English 420 Scenes. Come watch future screenwriters of Hollywood, Bollywood, and beyond present excerpts from twenty-first century blockbusters. Be there.
Allen Lounge

8:00 p.m.
The Loon Quintet. Brenden Hogan, '01, viola; Ryan Miller, '01, violin; Madhavi Nevader, '99, cello; Adam Popkin, '00, cello; Alex Zwerdling, '00, violin.
Arts Center Concert Hall

8:30 p.m.
Lounge Singing Extravaganza. Featuring the student performers of the lounge singing winter term workshop.
McCullough Floor

9:30 p.m.
Music Department Jazz Voice Students. Liza Hinman, '99, Shelby Johnson, '99, Scott McLeod, '00, and Graham Tracey, '98, perform vocals accompanied by Jeff Valone, '98, on bass, Christopher Farrell, '98, on guitar, and Pat Knightly, '98, on drums.
Gifford Gamut Room

Thursday, January 29

8:30 p.m.
La Serva Padrona. Angela Carroll, '98 (soprano), and Rian Alfiero, '97.5 (baritone) will combine their experiences with the Italian language and their studies in music to present Giovanni Pergolesi's one-act comic opera, La Serva Padrona. The will be accompanied by Cynthia Huard on harpsichord.
Arts Center Concert Hall

Announcements

Thursday, January 29

4:30-5:30 p.m.
Museum Studies: Exhibition Design. Exhibit models from the course taught by Ken Pohlman, museum designer and technician. Reception to follow.
Arts Center Lower Lobby

Friday, January 30

10:30-11:30 a.m. and 2:00-3:00 p.m.
Auditions: Middlebury College Choir. Call the Music Department at ext. 5221 to schedule a ten minute appointment with John Milson. (Also on February 9)
Arts Center Room 216

3:00-4:00 p.m.
Auditions: Middlebury Women's Choir. Call the Music Department at ext. 5221 to schedule a ten minute appointment with John Milsom and Amy Wlodarski. (Also on February 9)
Arts Center Room 216

Yeaton's 'Mad River Rising' fails to sweep audience away

By Thaya Brook
Arts Editor

The story is one we've heard again and again: the old father is doomed through his sons' betrayal of the old ways of life, representing the encroachment of the future on the past. But we love to tell this story because it is the story of the cycle of life, death, and regeneration. Playwright Dana Yeaton has taken this story and written it close to home, setting it on an old dairy farm in Vermont in his new play, "Mad River Rising." The small twist to this story is that it is the father who has pushed away his sons, rather than the sons leaving the father. Angus Stewart is a 77 year old ex-dairy farmer who has run away from the nursing home, back to the barn on his old farm. His daughter-in-law, who looks after him, has called his grown grandson, Charlie, up from New York City to find the old man and bring him back to the home. Charlie comes rushing up to Vermont, full of ideas for how to help his grandfather live out the rest of his days with dignity. Angus, however, has his own ideas of dignity. The action of the play flows back and forth from 1927, when heavy rains caused the local river to flood the town, to the present.

The play was performed two weeks ago at Royall Tyler Theatre, in Burlington. Tantoo Cardinal, who might be familiar from the film "Where the River Flows North," which was presented at Middlebury during Orientation last fall, gave a beautiful performance as the spirit of Mae, the French-Indian neighbour of the Stewarts in the 20's and also as Mae's daughter, and Angus' daughter-in-law, Marie. Her conscious stillness as Mae is a soothing presence, which contrasts sharply with her firm, business manner as Marie.

Just as he begins to win sympathy, he lashes out with lines like, "In order to train a dog, the first thing you need is to be smarter than the dog.

Philip Davidson plays an almost impish Angus, throwing his smart one-liners with withering precision. Although he may be tottering around the stage, or hiding behind hay bales while he changes his Depends, he is never a pathetic figure. Just as he begins to win sympathy, he lashes out with lines like "In order to train a dog, the first thing you need is to be smarter than the dog." However, although he experiences transitions between senility and lucidity, at the end, one wonders if the charcter himself experienced any kind of permanent transition from the first time we saw him.

Ethan T. Bowen, as Angus' grandson, Charlie, gave a solid performance, although it took him a while to warm up at the beginning. One got a sense, in the earlier scenes, that he was not altogther comfortable in the role. His lines seemed like recitations and his movements mechanic. Granted, his early lines seem aimed at giving us an overall impression of "the busy New York businessman," which make them difficult to play. Once the relationship with his grandfather was more firmly established, it seemed that Bowen felt he had somewhere to go and the character sprang to life.

The performance which stole the show, however, was Mark Nash as Spencer, a real rural Vermont type, complete with accent, baseball cap, and chewing tobaccco. Little touches, like pushing his cap back to scratch his head, or sticking his tongue in his cheek while he was thinking, are what made this character so amusing and enthralling. Nash's performance as the silent ghost of Angus' grandfather is a stunning shift from the loud-mouthed Spencer. In his overalls and heavy Wellingtons, he is an icon of the sturdy farmer.

The set, a realistic representation of the inside of a barn loft, gave the show its context. Charlie's city ideas clashed as much with his grandfather's rural ones as his neat power suit and lap-top clashed with the unfinished wood walls of the barn and his grandfather's flannels. Each character's place in relationship to the past could be identified with how comfortable he or she was in the barn.

The play's final message, that it is more important to take care of the future than to preserve the past, is a fresh twist on the old story. However, the relationships within the play are the same we've seen before, only they seem to lack the connections that would make them compelling and beautiful. Instead, the characters seem slightly detached, from one another and from the audience, which drains much of the potential power of this play's story.

'Kris Kross' meets 'New Kids' in weekend concert

By Karina Hof
Staff Writer

Whether or not you were on the McCulluogh dance floor last Friday night, surely you must have known of what was expected to be the "largest Latin party in the history of Middlebury." The Middlebury College Alianza Latinamericana y Caribe–a (ALC) and nine other organizational co-sponsors widely and eagerly publicized the performance of the Boston-based quartet, the Latyn Boyz. On a ladies' room window or a stairwell wall, you might have been greeted by one of the 11 x 17 posters featuring a high dpi, torso-portrait of the pretty boys accompanied by an advisory to "Dress to impress," and an assurance that "They'll make you sweat!"

"Sweat it out" is more like it. The Latyn Boyz, popular in the Latin American community, for their merengue-meets-house, or "merenhouse," music kept a slowly burgeoning crowd of faithful fans, hyper dancers and curious strollers-through waiting for nearly two hours. But thanks to a live DJ who played a medley of merenhouse music, the auditorium maintained its upbeat feel of high school talent show-meets-cruise ship postprandial party.

Finally, moments after midnight, welcomed by a chant of "Laaaatyn Boyz," they appeared. In identical silk shirts, black pants and gold chains, the dapper ensemble began their two hour performance. Each member of the group, which is composed of twenty-something year-old men of Puerto Rican descent, took turns lead singing to a track of pre-recorded music. Songs ranged from quick tempos overtoned by steady strings of Spanish though occasionally interrupted by shouts of "Yo Latyn Boyz!" to slow, sedate a cappella harmonies pre-empted by dedications to "all the single ladies in the house." Further added to the traditional merengue melodies of guitar, tambora drum and saxophone, were today's hip hop basics: Arsenio Hall-inspired hooting, an over-used Naughty By Nature-esque call to "wave your hands in the air" and "wave them like you just don't care" and the "Jump! Jump!" refrain sounding eerily similar to the early 90s Kris Kross version.

This reporter did not conduct research to determine if what occured was, in fact, the most massive fiesta in college antiquity.

Indeed the majority of attendees were moved, both physically and emotionally, by the Latyn Boyz. Some showed off new steps recently learned in the "Merengue and Salsa" J-term workshop. Others just grooved to what was, in its most literal definition, alternative music at Middlebury College. About the four artists who are currently working on their second CD release, one first year student simply remarked, "I thought they were great!"

But while energy-inducing and unique in style compromise, the Latyn Boyz had, what one might call the "con queso" factor. They were undeniably cheesy. Tagged by a concert-goer as "such dorks," the quartet was somewhat unoriginal and uncouth. As do Boyz II Men (or, stretching it, Kiss), the Latyn Boyz could just get away with sporting matching outfits. But with their synchronized dance movements, consisting of pelvic thrusts, knee drops, robotic gesticulations and dramatic ending poses, the Latyn Boys could easily have been mistaken for los Chicos Nuevos en la Cuadra (or the New Kids on the Block). Enough expressed.

This reporter did not conduct statistical research to determine if what occurred was, in fact, the most massive fiesta in college antiquity. And from an objective point-of-view, she found the Latyn Boyz, while refreshingly different and amusing, mostly silly and unimpressive.

Then again, she did not happen to perspire throughout her attendance at the event and she clothed herself in a mostly pragmatic fashion, primarily concerned with deterring the evening's snow and wind.

Art opens educational doors for school children

(continued from page 14)

been assigned to work.

The students are spread through each grade within five area elementary schools. Middlebury students, one or two to a classroom, work together with the regular elementary school teachers to plan their day to day presentations centered on art. Some students have taken the initiative to integrate their lesson into that which the children regularly study (e.g. a student collected portraits of presidents which she presented to her children as both the faces of great American presidents and examples of portrait art).

The J-term course well earns its "intensive" label. Students spend at least three hours a day three days a week accumulating direct teaching experience in their assigned elementary school, in addition to attending a two to three hour class in either Twilight 110 or the Middlebury College Museum of Art (an exhibit, "What's in a Face?" has been designed specifically for the class) where Olivo and/or Beck happily do their work two times a week. There was also the field trip to Burlington, a presentation on "special needs" and a workshop in which students and their elementary school teacher counterpart worked together on teaching skills. Happiness in teaching and working with children pulls the students through the immersing course.

The class itself is composed overwhelmingly of female students. The students have assigned reading and reaction papers as well as the obligation to take notes on their feelings and observations while in field placement. For their final project, the students each must plan a field trip to the Middlebury College Museum of Art and prepare a classroom of students for the experience. A final presentation will demonstrate what each student has learned about teaching through art.

Olivo and Beck believe their students are both learning and enjoying themselves. They believe their class offers a well-structured curriculum that thoroughly examines the art of teaching. They seem to enjoy it.

Outdoor installation shows Minimalist influence

(continued from page 15)

Olitski "wants to make original constructed sculpture rather than to try to eliminate sculptural interest for the sake of some kind of objecthood," as Minimalists do. Olitski wants his works to be almost, but not quite minimal, so that little secrets always pop up here and there throughout each piece. His sculptural ideas can therefore be seen as analogous to his ideas on painting. Olitski's paintings, which are even less imposing, and frankly, less interesting than his sculptures, are almost completely monochrome, but small patches of contrasting color reveal themselves around the edges. The purpose of these patches is similar to that of the notches in King Kong in that they create a slight variation in the work, playing a game of "which of these doesn't belong?" with the viewer.

The similarities between Olitski's painting and sculpture is borne out by Moffett, when he makes the assertion that the development of modernist sculpture is dependent on that of modernist painting. Never mind that this is a gross generalization; in Olitski's case, it happens to be true. Both his paintings and his sculptures are meant to be expressionistic and subjective in some way, unlike Minimalist sculptures, which are intended to be objective and unmoving. Unlike Minimalists, who take a "what you see is what you get" attitude toward their works, Olitski wants us to explore King Kong carefully, considering every detail. The viewer is supposed to walk around the sculpture, which changes appearance, sometimes dramatically, when viewed from different angles, and to look down over the rim of the work to discover the secrets hidden within.

Unlike Minimalists, who take a "what you see is what you get" attitude toward their works, Olitski wants us to explore King Kong carefully, considering every detail.

Unfortunately, she will soon tire of walking in circles around the work, and when she looks over the rim, the promised hidden secrets are nowhere to be found. So what we see isn't quite what we get, but it's pretty close.

Despite the fact that the expressionistic effect of King Kong is invariably lost on the viewer, it serves its function, providing a few opportunities for contemplation, but not so many that we are made late for class by admiring it; we can easily fit a glimpse of it into our busy schedules.

After all, this is Middlebury College, not the Metropolitan Museum. There, Olitski's piece would look clunky, intrusive, and out-of-place, but here, standing guard outside Johnson, providing a refreshing change of scenery, while at the same time keeping a low profile, it is perfectly at home.

What Are You Afraid Of?

InDepth

What Should You Be Afraid Of?

Who cares about ghosts when there are spooks all over campus? There are things to fear at Middlebury College and getting blue light phones won't help at all. Walking with a buddy to the Geonomics House just makes you both victims. Shutting your doors and locking your windows won't prevent the invasion of your privacy.

If you know no fear than you are lucky... read no further and your blissful ignorance may last a few more days... read these stories and you will realize we have more to fear than fear itself.

Experimental Memory Loss Gas Used by Geonomics Institute

By Lucas Klein
Staff Writer

Sooner or later we all have to face it. It hangs on the outskirts of campus, threatening more each day to become an even greater part of the world. I am, of course, referring to the Geonomics House.

My first experience with the Geonomics Institute took me by surprise. A friend of mine had to deliver a paper to an office in the house—notice that it was not a professor who would receive her paper, but an office—and she brought me along. Naively, I said I would go, never having heard the name Geonomics before. On the way there, naively again, I asked her what the word meant.

"I don't know," she said quietly. "I just don't know."

This is what we know so far:

• The prefix *geo-* refers to the classical Greek word meaning earth.

• The suffix -nomics refers to the Latin word meaning name.

What is this conflation of classical languages into one word?

As we stepped into the building, I saw a sight I do not clearly remember. Blue carpets seem particularly important to the scenery there, but I do admit I don't remember the inside clearly at all.

This is what we know so far:

• The Central Intelligence Agency of the United States spends much of its time concerned with America's friends and enemies, going at lengths to establish puppet-or nominal-governments in former enemy countries at various places on the earth.

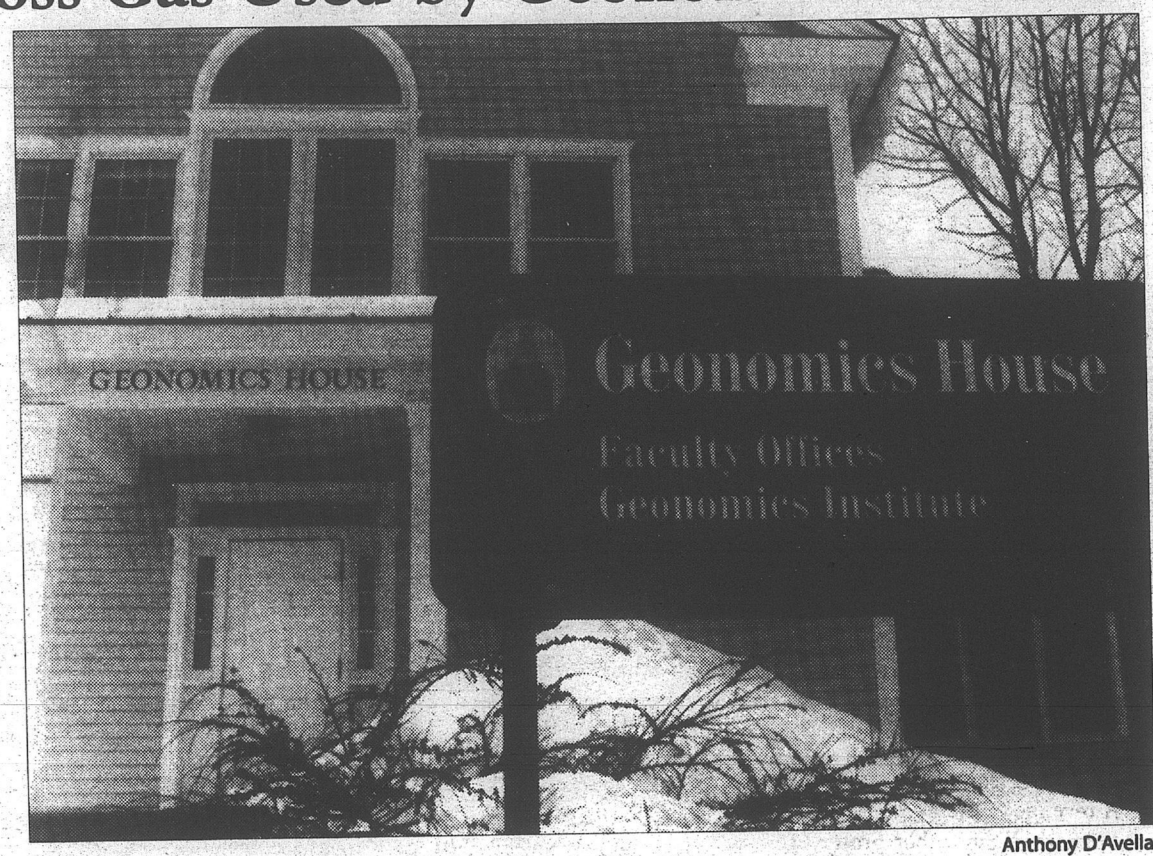
• The CIA has experimented with nerve- and other types of gases to test levels of forced memory loss.

The prefix *geo-* refers to the classical Greek word meaning earth. The suffix *-nomics* refers to the Latin word meaning name. What is this conflation of classical languages into one word?

She handed her paper into the office, and we left the building, where all of a sudden my memory improves. As neither one of us had any semblance of a memory of even walking to the Geonomics Institute, however, we asked each other where we were, what we were doing, and why we didn't go get some Mozzarella Sticks.

But the story does not end there. While that was my only time in the Geonomics building, so far as I can recall, other incidents on campus have also sparked my fear and curiosity of the likely CIA front.

For instance, Bryan Stratton, president of the Student Government and Conspiracy Theorist, once blatantly asked in a Campus article if the Geonomics House were nothing but a cover-up for an on-campus CIA headquarters, yet no one read the article. No one remembers reading the article, I should say, for I am sure that an article by the president of the Student Government appearing within the pages of *The Campus* would never go unread.



Anthony D'Avella

This picture was supposed to be taken inside, but the photographer's film was confiscated.

Nonetheless, the people who have any memory whatsoever of his questions within that article are few and far between. If you recall reading this article, consider yourself one of the lucky and privileged few, but do not neglect the fact that maybe they want you to remember it.

This is what we know so far:

• In previous issues of the Campus, advertisements from the CIA appeared. While few remember Stratton's article, many have strong memories of the CIA advertisements.

• This very article may not be published.

No one can prove that the Geonomics House is linked, whether officially of unofficially, with the Central Intelligence Agency, but no one can prove that the two are not really two names for the same organization either. Indeed, we cannot prove that Geonomics is not a Freemason cover-up acting as a CIA office to draw attention away from itself. "Freemasons?" you say.

No one can *prove* that the Geonomics House is linked, whether officially of unofficially, with the Central Intelligence Agency, but no one can prove that the two are not really two names for the same organization either.

Yes, Freemasons. I'm sure we all know the stories of the Freemason icon on the back of the one-dollar bill, but is it possible that the Freemasons are an actual presence on campus?

I cannot say for sure that the Freemasons are not merely a harmless organization that exists to foster traditional morals amongst no more than its members. Yet nor can I say for sure that it is not a rival to the Central Intelligence Agency more powerful than the once-prevalent KGB.

And let us take a look at just a few of the professors with offices in Geonomics:

Thomas Kelly, specialist in Latin American economics, for instance, noted for his extreme intelligence, should not have any moral qualms about being supported by either the CIA or the Masons in his 'examinations' of the Latin American financial situation.

Does this pose a *Contra*-diction? Only time will be the judge of that.

And Allison Stanger and Michael Kraus, a veritable Dynamic Duo in the world of Political Science, not only have offices in Geonomics, but have often been seen bringing their fully bi-lingual toddler daughter to the Institute. And what of the Stanger/Kraus connection to the new government of the Czeck Republic? Whose side are they on—Agency or Masonry?

Can we be certain of anything?

I for one know something, however, and it is that I will stay far away from the Geonomics Institute from here forth, keeping clear of either the CIA or Freemason agents who regularly can be seen walking into—but never walking out of—Geonomics.

And remember, just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they aren't after you.

And now...from the home office in Vergennes, Vermont it's...

The **Top Ten Founded Fears** at Middlebury College

Compiled by Kevin Peckham

10. Irakly Areshidze
9. El Niño
8. The Fitness Center
7. Sex
6. A lack of Sex
5. The Bathroom at The Mill
4. Getting A Patagonia Expedition Jacket Dirty
3. *"You Have No Messages"*
2. Forgetting a bag of bombs at the airport
1. The end of J-Term

College students lose their sleep: monetary worries to blame

No cash, no problem! If you can use your MiddCard,its an academic expense...just hope dad paid the pin bill.

By Jill Rahall
Staff Writer

A few night's ago my friend had a nightmare. We'll call her Jane for privacy's sake.

It went something like this: It was a typical Saturday night, and after spending a few hours roaming drunk around campus with her friends, it was time to hit the Crest Room. Jane ordered up a big juicy turkey club, grabbed a bottle of Snapple and headed to the cash register.

But something went dreadfully wrong when she stuck her Platinum Midd Card in the card reader. After typing in her pin number, she heard the eerie sound of the long beeeeep, instead of the usual happy beep-beep. She looked up in horror at the Crest Room lady and screamed, "How could this be? What's wrong with this stupid machine?"

The Crest Room lady patiently explained to her that she probably hadn't paid her pin bill, and it had been turned off, and that she was going to have to pay with cash.

"Oh no," Jane assured her, "Daddy pays my pin bill on time every month. He makes sure all of my bills are paid, including all of my credit card bills and all that tuition stuff."

"Well apparently he slipped up this time. Too bad for you that you've already taken a big fat bite out of that sandwich. You're going to have to find some way to pay for it on your own," the Crest Room lady replied.

Flustered, Jane is forced to leave her North Face jacket with the Crest Room lady before she runs to the ATM to pull a few hundred out of Daddy's account. After running down the stairs in a tizzy, she realizes she doesn't have his card with her and so she runs outside to where her Land Rover is parked to get her wallet. But she can't get in because she locked her keys in the car.

Determined to get that turkey club, and her jacket back, Jane jumps in front of the drunk bus as it's driving by and Phyllis slams on the brakes to avoid hitting her.

A frantic Jane scrambles into the front seat and begs Phyllis to take her to her cabin in Stowe where she knows her Daddy is staying for the weekend. Phyllis tells her to get out of the bus, but after a few minutes of bribing (which include a blue North Face vest and the promise that Phyllis and her husband can use the cabin next weekend), Phyllis gives in.

But when they get to Stowe, the housekeeper tells Jane that her dad isn't there. He must have decided to go to the Alps this weekend instead. Penniless and distraught, Jane loses it right there and starts trying to beating the crap out of the helpless housekeeper while Phyllis struggles to restrain her back.

Now don't be alarmed — remember this was only a bad dream for Jane. But unfortunately it does represent one side of the spectrum of monetary phobias at this school. I was sure that I had other friends for whom this situation was completely foreign. I wanted to talk to them about Janes dream.

On Sunday afternoon, I was standing in McCullough talking to another friend, who was working at the information desk. It's only one of her two jobs at Middlebury, and she still can't manage to keep all of her bills paid.

As I was standing there, telling her about Jane's dream, a few passerbys gathered around the information desk to listen. When I was done, the comments that came out of that crowd sufficed to show me that not everyone at Middlebury is like Jane.

One charismatic and mysteriously well dressed male student started ranting and raving about all of the financial problems he faces due to his decision to come to Middlebury. His stirring speech was filled with a variety of four and five letter expletives, which I don't feel would be appropriate to print. His general point was that his parents have already been drained of every penny they have, and when he gets through paying off his student loans, he'll have even less money than the cats that live in the alley. Which is where he'll soon be sleeping.

So I guess he couldn't really relate to my friend Jane. But, I wonder, can you?

There are a wide variety of monetary situations at this school, from international students who can't afford to go home, even for the summer, to those students whose most pressing monetary issue is whether it's more expensive to go to Jamaica or Puerto Rico for Feb break.

I guess there aren't many monetary fears which unite the Middlebury College campus, except for the fact that we all have them, in one form or another.

Some international students can't afford to go home, even for the summer, while some students' most pressing monetary issue is whether it's more expensive to go to Jamaica or Puerto Rico for Feb break.

'Unix-literate seize control at Midd

By Wells Chandler
inDepth Editor

What do I fear?

A revenge of the nerds.

More than any other group of people on campus, I fear the techknows, the kids that walk by with their heads down, the ones that have access to everyone's pin number, the people that have never said "wassup": the students that run this school.

If you go to almost any school outside of the NESCAC schools, you'll find belligerent sportsmen running the show. I only wish that was the case at Middlebury College.

With lacrosse and football men you always know how you stand, They make their opinions known and run things in an up-front, in-your-face way. If you keep at least three feet from them (four for the basketball guys) you're clear of danger. Most importantly however, the big guys scare the crap out of the soft spoken nerds. They intimidate them so much that four eyed feinds never even dare to put up their own web pages. Most of a nerd's time on campus is actually spent "correcting" the football players' grades and writing cheerleaders' papers. They don't have time to think up their own conspiracies.

Life isn't so simple at Middlebury. We are cursed with an impotently small population of demonic defensive ends and wicked wingmen... the geeks have ascended!!

The problem with a ruling overleamed class is that they are seclusive, stoic, and can destroy you silently from across campus. When you wake up one sunny afternoon and your Midd Unix account mysteriously isn't opening, the best explanation is that you gave a funny look to a kid wearing all black the day before.

If you call up computer support you'll just get a ftiend of the kid in black, who'll tell you that you must be entering your password incorrectly. Which is the truth, since the lanky kid in black decided to chang your password to "Freemason" last night.

They always work at night. At dusk, as the sun goes down, you can begin to see them emerging from their rooms in Hepburn and Gifford. They swing their arms with confidence in the oncoming night, but keep their eyes on the ground.

You will rarely see their eyes. They are piercing points behid the magnifying lenses of their glasses. If you wish to see their eyes you must go to Voter, They gather every fifth day in Voter, invisible to the bleary eyed kids pulling allnighters. This is where they turn up their chins and discuss web pages, data storage devices, and world domination, They create black lists, discuss appropriate punnishments, and assign executioners, all under their own social code.

When they are assembled, all the computing power of Middlebury College is at their disposal and mercy. Serval, Ocelot, Midd Unix, MARS, and the telephone system are all working today thanks to their benevolence last night.

With an understanding of these powerful bargaining chips, the administration always consults the Voter crowd before making any decisions; Bicentennial Hall, the new hockey rink, the new commons system, and the Pack and Olinick assassination campaign all received approval from a Voter crowd subcommittee before McCardell even started fundraising.

The school is presently in such a delicate balance now that I see little chance of dethroning the nerds without destroying the institution. They are in a position of such great power, as was ex-PFC Wintergreen, that it would be impossible to go around them. We are caught in a Catch-22, unable to maneuver, destined to do what we're told to do by the people who gave us what we told them to.

At least until the 2000 bug gets them.

If you go to almost any school outside of the NESCAC schools, you'll find beligerent sportsmen running the show. I only wish that was the case at Middlebury. With lacross and footbalol men you always know where you stand...Life at Middlebury College isn't so simple.

Anthony D'Avella

Jason Oleet '00.5, caught conspiring against society from his cave.

Riding the Pine

By Chris Morgan
Sports Editor

On Sunday the Denver Broncos emerged victorious with John Elway finally earning his Super Bowl ring after losing in his three previous attempts. Terrell Davis had three rushing touchdowns, and was named the game MVP. The game was always close, and in the closing seconds the Green Bay Packers' Brett Favre had one last chance to lead his team to glory. However, it was not to be and the AFC's streak of thirteen Super Bowl losses came to an end.

In the eyes of most of those who watched the game it was the best Super Bowl ever. The Denver victory stood for everything that is right with sports. The post game celebration in Denver on the other hand stood for everything that is wrong with sports fans.

As soon as the game was over ecstatic Denver fans took to the streets in a display of sheer joy after four previous Super Bowl disappointments. Nearly 20,000 Broncos fans are said to have filled the streets celebrating the victory. People danced, hugged and some even cried. And then they became violent and destructive.

Celebrants overturned cars and ransacked a Foot Locker. People knocked down utility poles. Denver Health Medical Center was inundated with people with injuries ranging from broken bones to head, neck, and back injuries. Two people were shot and killed in the midst of the celebration, and the police were forced to release tear gas to keep the situation under control.

The question remains, why do fans so often turn to violent destructive behavior to celebrate such a great moment?

I have no real answer for this question, however, in no way is this a criticism of only Denver fans. When the Marlins won the World Series there were similar occurrences in Miami. When the Bulls won the NBA Championship the streets Chicago were filled with revelers who felt the need to turn to violence to celebrate. The post-game celebration after any college team wins anyting is always destructive.

Violence mars the celebration for the players as well as the fans. When one fan was asked about the destruction that was going on around him his response was, "We're all having a good time. There's no reason for that sort of thing." With such a crowd the police have little choice but to use gas in an attempt to stop the violence.

However, one witness presented the image of a mother huddling in a corner with her young child trying to protect him from tear gas. Those who want to celebrate a great moment are punished for the actions of others.

When asked how he felt about the Denver victory one fan said, "Oh, when I was a kid, I cried every time they lost. I've been dreaming about this for 21 years." This is the sheer enthusiasm that should accompany victory.

Violence destroys the elation of the moment for not just the people in one particular city, but for the entire nation.

Women's Hockey dominates in ECAC contests

By Kendra Slater
Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's hockey team took a road trip to New York last weekend, where they recorded two wins and amassed 11 goals. As they trampled on their ECAC opponents, the Panthers steadily improved their overall record to an impressive 8 wins and 3 losses.

On Saturday, Middlebury defeated Rochester Institute of Tech-

Women's Hockey

Saturday, January 24th

Middlebury	7
Hamilton	1

Sunday, January 25th

Middlebury	7
Colgate	1

Peter Huoppi

Janice O'Neil '99 manuvers her way through two reaching Colgate opponents in her teams' 7-1 ECAC blowout.

nology 3-1. Although R. I. T. scored early in the game for a quick one goal lead, the advantage was short-lived. Middlebury rebounded with a goal by rookie Michelle Labbe '01 at the nine minute mark in the first period to tie up the score.

The Panthers then gained the lead in the second period as junior Sarah Cotton scored her first goal of the season. The Panthers went into the final period with a slim lead, and an insurance goal was needed.

Catherine Pullins, who had already assisted the first two scores, netted a goal of her own in the first minute of the third period. Sophomore goaltender Beth Denoncourt recorded 12 saves as Middlebury clinched the 3-1 win.

On Sunday the Panthers stomped on Renselaar Polytechnic Institute in an 8-0 win. Two first-year players set the pace for Middlebury in the first period. Sarah Carpenter scored her first collegiate goal, while classmate Labbe recorded her second goal of the weekend. In the second period, Labbe struck for another goal and sophomores Sylvia Ryan and Christa McDougall each scored to increase Middlebury's lead to 5 goals..

However, the Panthers did not stop at that tally, as Labbe increased her point barrage in the third period. first-year sensation scored her third goal of the game, and Ryan and junior Suzanne Chepren also recorded goals to finish the scoring. Janice O'Neil' 99 and Ryan each collected three assists throughout the game, helping the Panthers to a convincing 8-0 win.

Labbe's impressive play over the weekend did not go unnoticed, as her four goals and one assist in Middlebury's two victories earned her the ECAC Alliance Rookie of the Week.

This past weekend, the Panthers' steady play did not falter as they defeated both Hamilton and Colgate 7-1. On Saturday, Middlebury faced Hamilton with resounding success. Kelly Hase '00 and O'Neil led the team with two goals apiece, and Ryan, Labbe and Carpenter each provided one goal to the winning cause. Goaltender Kristin Hackmann recorded 5 saves as Middlebury improved their record to 7-3.

On Sunday, Colgate proved to have as little success against the powerful Middlebury team as Hamilton did. Labbe continued her exceptional play, as she led the Panthers with 3 goals. Ryan also scored 2 goals, and Cotton and Stephanie Mill had a goal apiece. Hackmann, who had 2 saves, was virtually untested in the goal, as the Middlebury defense proved to be too tough for the Colgate attackers.

Over the past two weekends, Middlebury improved their overall record to 10-3 while remaining undefeated in the ECAC Alliance with a 7-0 record in that division. First-year standout has been taking the ECAC Alliance by stormleading Middlebury with 12 goals and 15 assists.

If Labbe and the rest of the Panthers keep up their solid play, they could easily be looking at a repeat of last year's ECAC Alliance championship.

Squash suffers tough losses

By Chris Morgan
and
Jennifer DeLeonardo
Sports Editors

The Middlebury women's squash team started of the 1997-1998 season with a trip to Williamstown, Massachussetts, for the Williams Invitational Tournament. The team faced some tough opposition but walked away with one win despite three losses.

In the opening match against Hamilton, Middlebury emerged victorious with a score of 7-2. The seniors, Amanda Gonzalez, Katherine Keen and Carole Barnsley, led the team to victory in the match as all won 3-0.

The sophomore members of the team also enjoyed similar success against Hamilton. All three won their matches 3-0 as the Panthers defeated the Hamilton Continentals 7-2. The two other wins were by forfeit.

Middlebury's luck did not continue into the next three matches as Middlebury lost to Bowdoin, Colby, and Connecticut College. In the match against Bowdoin, Middlebury fought hard but the Polar Bears won 9-0.

In their third match of the weekend, the Panthers took on the Colby White Mules. Once again, Middlebury put forth a good effort towards the end, but nevertheless fell 9-0.

The final match of the weekend proved to be somewhat closer than the previous two as the Panthers suffered a 5-4 loss to Connecticut College.

The seniors were extremely successful in this final match as Gonzales and Keen both won 3-0. Barnsley battled through a long match against her Connecticut College opponent and finally emerged victorious for a 3-2 win. Sophomore Mindy Olsen provided the fourth victory for Middlebury with an easy 3-0 win.

Despite their early losses the team looks with optimism towards their future matches.

Sophomore Colleen Bramhall stated, "Although we are missing some top players, new players who have been thrown into the game have been able to step up to higher levels, and are playing extremely well."

Coach Dave Saward was also pleased with the team's performance given the relative inexperience of the players. He looks to upcoming matches against Dartmouth, Mt. Holyoke and Franklin and Marshall.

Let the Games begin.

Pete Huoppi

Here trying to maintain their footing, *Brainerd Commons nonetheless slipped past Wonnocott Commons for a third-place finish in broomball during the 1998 Middlebury College Winter Olympics this past weekend.*

Swimming strokes past St. Michael's, Union

By Nicole Donovan
Staff Writer

The Panthers' swimming and diving teams displayed their aquatic prowess once again by beating St. Michael's College this past Wednesday. The win improved the teams' season record to 3-2.

A meet highlight occurred when Susan Givens '99 broke five minutes in the 400-yard individual medley which "is quite a milestone," noted head coach Peter Solomon This was Givens first competition since her return from a fall in Paris.

Solomon was also impressed with swims from the first-year women. Both Ariel Diggory '01 and Bryn Kenny '01 qualified for New Englands in the 50 backstroke, while Erin Sussman '01 posted a personal best time in the 50 freestyle with a time of 27.8. Elizabeth Schwarz '01 came in with a time of 28.9 in the 50 freestyle was also a personal best for the season.

"In the 500-yard freestyle, first-year Michelle Morton equaled her best time of the year," added Solomon. "She had an impressive swim after a tough week of distance training."

Men's races proved equally impressive against St. Michael's. Distance swimmers Michael Cocchiaro '00, John Robertson '01 and Frank Pandolfe '00 all had strong swims in the 500 freestyle. Michael Duff '99, demonstrating his hard training, had an excellent race in the 400 individual medley as he dropped seven seconds. J.P. Gowdy '99 finished in second place in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:02.8 that places him in the top six in New England.

Freestyle sprinter Adam Sobek '99, racing the 100 breaststroke for fun, went a 1:11, placing him amongst the top six New England women's times!

Both men and women again emerged victorious this weekend, when the Panthers hosted Union Sixteen pool records were set: eight by the men's team and one by the women. "An amazing amount of pool records were broken, along with both Nationals and New England cuts being made," said Solomon. "About 75 performances were personal best times this year, including Dave Scopp and Erin Grace qualifying for New Englands in the 50 fly and 50 breast, respectively."

The triumphs began with the women's 200 medley relay, when the Middlebury women took first and second place.

Heidi George '98 made the National "A" cut in the mile (1650 yards), with a time of 17.34.66. Captain Rebecca Viscount '98 finished second in the mile with a time of 18:19.44.

The women Panthers captured first, second and third places in the 100 breaststroke, with first-year Megan Olson winning the event in 1:11.57. Jane Calfee '00 set a new pool record in the 200 backstroke, finishing in 2:12.04.

"With such a close meet, to look back at the statistics, one sees the equal importance of our third and fourth place finishes with the first and seconds," commented Solomon. "It was a team effort."

The first-year backstrokers secured second, third, and fifth in the 100 backstroke, as Susan Shepard swam a 1:04.00, Bryn Kenny swam a 1:05.3, and Jackie Spring swam a 1:07.

"The importance of our depth was also seen in the 50 freestyle, where Jen Clark took first place, with a time of 25.62, but we also had third and fourth place finishes."

Gina Duff '00 came off the injured reserve list to score the Panther women a point in the 200 butterfly, with a time of 2:44.83. Sophomore divers Gwen Busby, Carrie Pistema and Jamie McBride finished second, third and fourth respectively in the 3-meter diving.

Pete Huoppi

Alex Klose '01 swims the breaststroke in the 200 medley relay in the process of his team's setting a pool record.

"The meet came down to the last relay, where we again needed to prove our depth," said Solomon. "We needed to get second to win the meet. When our top relay was disqualified because of a false start, the B relay's third-place finish solidified the meet for our women, as they moved up to the second-place spot."

"The meet came down to the last relay, where we again needed to prove our depth."

The narrow victory improved the women's record to 4- 2. "We are looking forward to hosting Williams and Springfield next week. The talent of the Williams swimmers should bring out the best in our women's team."

The men's meet also produced amazing swims as the Panthers beat Union College for the first time ever.

Captain J.P. Gowdy '99 set pool records in the 200 free style (1:46.18), the 200 individual medley (1:56.36), and his backstroke leg of the 200 medley relay. Gowdy, Alex Klose '01, Adam Sobek '99, and Dave Shoemaker '00 also broke their own pool record in the relay, finishing nearly two seconds faster than their best time. John Robertson '01 had a first place finish and broke a pool record in the mile with a time of 17:21.01, while freestyle sprinter Dave Shoemaker broke his own pool record in the 50 freestyle twice during the meet. Ian Doherty '00 had a first place finish in the 200 backstroke with a time of 1:57.92, and set another pool record, along with Alex Klose's 200 yard breaststroke time of 2:13.69.

"Alex had a dramatic come from behind victory, where he out touched the Union swimmer by only seven hundredths of a second," stated Solomon.

Success on the men's team was also apparent off the diving boards. "Will Peters placed second in both the 1- and 3-meter competition, which is the best he has done all year," said Solomon. First-year Jon Cheesbro also dove well, placing in third in the 3-meter competition.

"There is a lot of parity happening amongst the men's teams in the league," commented Solomon. "Our win this weekend is a good indication of our strength going into the Williams meet. We hope to surprise Williams with our line-up."

The Panthers host Williams in the Natatorium Saturday afternoon.

Basketball wins over rival Williams

(continued from page 24)

thers converted 12 of 14 freethrows late in the second half to preserve an impressive 86-72 win. The win snapped Williams' seven game winning streak and extended the Panthers home winning streak against Division III opponents to an awe-inspiring 40 games.

Coach Fulcher pointed to Middlebury's key freethrow shooting, which included 23 of 29 in the second half, as a real sign of character for her club. "Our kids have been smart during close ballgames. Against Williams, we did a good job of taking care of a lead during crunch time against a very good team. In addition to our free throw shooting, I felt that we made some key defensive stops, as well."

Peterson continued with her strong play, as she led the team with 22 points and grabbed 8 rebounds.

Kelly McCarthy '99 recorded another double-double, with 18 points, 12 rebounds, while Languglois and Trowbridge each contributed 18 points.

In addition to the timely freethrow shooting, Coach Fulcher pointed to the Panther's gritty play in the paint. "I was really pleased with our ability to shut down their inside game. We were severely outsized, we had 5-9 kids going up against 6-2 kids, but our team really worked hard to shut down their post play. I think it really says something about the closeness of our team, both on and off the court, that we were able to work as a unit to outplay them inside." Fulcher believes that is this team "unity" which is perhaps the defining characteristic of this team. "This team is definitely one of the closest teams I've coached in my four years, here at Middlebury. The whole team is really connected, and all fourteen kids have the desire to work hard to make this a special season."

"... I think it really says something about the closeness of our team, both on and off the court, that we were able to work as a unit to outplay them inside."

Middlebury is ranked seventeenth in the country in the latest Women's Basketball Coaches Association Division III Poll, and second behind the University of Southern Maine in the Division III Northeast Poll. Despite these high rankings, the team knows that they must remain focused for the remaining month of the regular season—a month in which they will play a grueling 13-game schedule.

This week they will play three road games against three quality teams in Skidmore, who is 9-3, Amherst who is 7-3, and Trinity who is 7-2.

"All three teams are top teams in their regions," Coach Fulcher observed. "The fact that we are playing all three games on the road during a five day stretch will really show what this team is capable of. It will certainly be quite a challenge."

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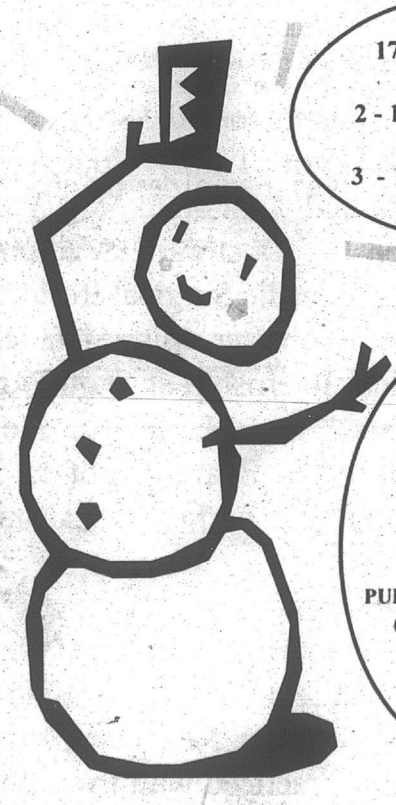

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Men's Basketball accentuates the positive with two wins away

By Peter Jacoby
Staff Writer

After sustaining a string of losses, the men's basketball team this past week decided on a policy of no mercy. After four gamesthe Panthers emerged with two wins and two losses but a renewed sense of momentum.

Middlebury beat Endicott and Castleton State but lost to Colby-Sawyer and longtime rivals Williams.

While it may not be considered good sportsmanship to beat up on smaller schools, Middlebury was determined to avenge their six-game losing streak at Endicott College, which has just half Middlebury's enrollment.

The Panthers came out shooting and by the end of the first half, Middlebury had connected on 11 three-point attempts. The score stood at 54-23, and everyone in the building knew what the outcome of the game would be. The only question was how many points the Panthers would score.

Early in the second half, Joey Faucher '00 hit another three pointer to break the school record for three pointers in a game at 15, but Middlebury did not stop there. Coach Jeff Brown continued to give his team the green light, and they continued to hit their shots.

By the end of the game, the team had hit 19 of their 41 three-points attempts, both of which were school records, as they walked away with a 116-54 victory. The score shows not only the total domination of the Panthers, but also the end result of six games' worth of frustration that all came out in one shooting spree.

Two Panther guards combined for 11 three-pointers as Craig Breen '00 hit five and Joey Faucher had six. Breen finished with a career-high 24 points, while Faucher picked up 20. Senior co-captain Greg Poulos added 12 points and six assists while Chad Malone '01 grabbed a game-high eight rebounds.

Overall, the game helped the young team build some confidence while allowing individuals to have some fun and increase their stats.

The Panthers had the difficult task of coming off a relatively smooth game one day to battle a strong team the next. Middlebury traveled to New Hampshire to take on Colby-Sawyer College.

The Panthers came out a bit slowly in the first half, and had to fight an uphill battle the rest of the day after being down 45-27 at halftime. The Panthers knew that they were a better team than was exhibited by the way they were playing, and came out in the second half pumped up.

Despite outscoring Colby-Sawyer 48-45 in the second half, the Panthers ultimately lost the game 90-75. Breen had a team-high 18 points while John Maletis '99 added 13 and co-captain Adam Boffey '98 had 12.

The Panthers next had to travel down to Williamstown, Mass., to battle Williams. The Ephs entered the game with an 8-1 record after a recent loss to undefeated Amherst and occupied second place in NESCAC standings. They were clearly not about to let a struggling Middlebury team upset them. The Panthers got behind early as an equally vengeful Williams team jumped out to a 25-4 lead midway through the half. Middlebury never really got back on track and the Ephs cruised to an 87-58 victory. Chris McLaughlin '01 was the lone star for Middlebury as he shot six for 11 from the field and finished with a team-high 14 points. The team showed that they were the not-quite-ready-for-prime-team players in the league. Yet the Panthers rebounded nicely in an at-home win just the next day.

Castleton State College had just come off a thrashing of Hampshire College where they won 126-52, increasing their record to 6-4. The Panthers had won their last game at home and wanted to continue what little good fortune they had had on the road with another victory for the home crowd.

The Panthers proved too much for their opponents and early in the second half, Middlebury started to pull away. The Panthers cruised at the end, winning 72-50 and increasing their record to 4-8.

The team must now prepare for the heart of their schedule against some very tough NESCAC teams. The panthers will host Amherst at home on Friday.

Peter Huoppi

A Middlebury forward dodges his way past a diving Endicott defender.

Porter Hospital is pleased
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Dr. John Ayres

Orthopedic Surgeon
and the establishment of
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in the Marble Works Complex
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Dr. Ayres earned his Bachelors of Science in Biology with Honors from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut and went on to New York Medical College for his Doctor of Medicine degree. He was an Orthopedic Surgical Resident at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota and completed his Surgical Internship at Dartmouth Affiliated Hospitals in Hanover, New Hampshire. Dr. Ayres is Board Certified in Orthopedics and is a member of the medical staff at Porter Hospital.

Previously, Dr. Ayres was in solo practices in Sanford, Maine; Newport Claremont, New Hampshire; and Springfield Vermont and in a group practice in Charlestown, New Hampshire. Additionally, Dr. Ayres practiced with the public Health Service in Seattle, Washington.

**For an appointment
please call (802) 388-4587**

Hockey trounces rivals on road

(continued from page 28)

riod to earn a hat trick for the day.

Curt Goldman complimented Zinc's first period goal creating a 2-0 lead for the Panthers after the first period.

The Panthers added three more in the second period, with Jeff Anastasio and Ray Turner adding tallies. David Bracken ended up the game nicely, scoring the Panther's seventh goal in the last minute of the third period.

The Panthers look to stretch their unbeaten streak indefinitely. They are well on their way with Tuesday's 4-1 victory against Norwich.

The Panthers will next face Southern Maine and Salem State.

Hopefully, with a few more wins, Middlebury can head into its post season play with enthusiasm, confidence, and success.

Carnival requests helpers

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Sports Editor

Winter Carnival, one of Middlebury's most honored traditions, is just around the corner. The revelry is scheduled to take place February 22-25.

When many people think of carnival, they think of the day off from classes, the Carnival Ball, and the general party-hearty atmosphere. However, the real reason for the Carnival is the ski races, both alpine and nordic, which serve as the Eastern Division I Championships.

The Middlebury Carnival tradition began in 1923. It is the last stop on the ski team's tour of eastern carnivals which include one sponsored by UVM, Dartmouth, and Williams among others.

Middlebury's carnival is unique in many ways.

The big end-of-season banquet is held here, and coach-of-the-year awards and other season-long awards are given. Townspeople, alumni and students alike rally support.

One of the most unique properties of the carnival is that it is completely student-organized. It is the only winter carnival that is entirely planned by students. It also has the reputation among eastern ski coaches as being the most efficient event of the season. An unofficial award is given each year to the school which puts on the best event, and Middlebury has won frequently.

As such, many student volunteers are needed to help with the events.

Marshals for the nordic races and gatekeepers for the alpine races are needed. The Winter Carnival Sports Board is looking to get as many interested students as possible to help. No ski experience is necessary as many of the jobs are not dependent on prior knowledge.

Anyone who wishes to help can call Stephanie Crumb '00 at x6065.

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PANTHER STATS

Women's Basketball

No. Player	GP-GS	MIN-AVG	TOTAL FG-FGA PCT	3-POINTERS FG-FGA PCT	FT-FTA PCT	REBOUNDS OFF-DEF TOT AVG	A TO BLK ST	PTS - AVG
12 Lauren Brown	10 10	251 25.1	45 134 .336	24 73 .329	31 41 .756	29 41 70 7.0	15 22 6 15	145 14.5
21 Chrissy Peterson	10 8	290 29.0	53 119 .445	0 3 .000	35 57 .614	40 35 75 7.5	25 25 1 23	141 14.1
20 Kelly McCarthy	10 10	297 29.7	45 94 .479	0 1 .000	26 35 .743	49 40 89 8.9	15 23 5 21	116 11.6
10 Heather Langlois	10 3	267 26.7	31 74 .419	9 30 .300	22 28 .786	6 13 19 1.9	21 30 1 11	93 9.3
14 Dawn Trowbridge	10 2	189 18.9	28 80 .350	0 1 .000	26 39 .667	11 20 31 3.1	11 21 0 12	82 8.2
00 Joanna Wolkowski	10 8	274 27.4	29 69 .420	6 13 .462	11 21 .524	27 32 59 5.9	25 28 0 9	75 7.5
24 Alyssa Pappas	9 0	67 7.4	11 18 .611	0 1 .000	2 5 .400	6 7 13 1.4	4 9 0 2	24 2.7
15 Deb Perisho	9 3	104 11.6	7 21 .333	0 0 .000	6 9 .667	3 13 16 1.8	3 8 0 1	20 2.2
23 Kristy Laramee	9 0	60 6.7	8 18 .444	0 1 .000	2 9 .222	6 14 20 2.2	3 4 7 0	18 2.0
31 Rebecca Kaufman	8 0	47 5.9	5 8 .625	2 3 .667	2 4 .500	2 2 4 0.5	2 2 0 .0	14 1.8
22 Amy Johnson	8 6	85 10.6	6 18 .333	0 0 .000	1 4 .250	9 11 20 2.5	3 2 0 0	13 1.6
11 Riann Siciak	7 0	39 5.6	5 9 .556	2 2 1.000	0 0 .000	3 8 11 1.6	6 6 0 1	12 1.7
33 Michelle Sorise	6 0	30 5.0	0 6 .000	0 0 .000	3 4 .750	7 4 11 1.8	1 3 1 0	3 0.5
Middlebury Totals	10	1999	273 668 409	43 128 .336	167 256 .652	214 268 482 48.2	134 184 21 95	756 73.5
Opponents Totals	10	1999	229 594 .386	27 111 .243	82 135 .607	128 231 359 35.9	102 242 20 47	567 56.7

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
Opponents	265	302	0	0	567
Middlebury	356	400	0	0	756

Men's Basketball

No. Player	GP-GS	MIN-AVG	TOTAL FG-FGA PCT	3-POINTERS FG-FGA PCT	FT-FTA PCT	REBOUNDS OFF-DEF TOT AVG	A TO BLK ST	PTS - AVG
22 Craig Breen	11 8	242 22.0	46 105 .438	28 69 .406	19 21 .905	7 7 14 1.3	11 14 1 9	139 12.6
21 Greg Poulos	12 10	304 25.3	43 111 .387	7 32 .219	46 56 .821	9 25 34 2.8	32 33 3 15	139 11.6
10 Joey Faucher	12 5	246 20.5	43 126 .341	33 93 .355	6 9 .667	7 15 22 1.8	15 21 1 10	125 10.4
55 Adam Boffey	12 8	291 24.3	45 97 .464	0 2 .000	10 17 .588	26 49 75 6.3	13 18 3 9	100 8.3
11 Mike Faucher	12 11	295 24.6	26 58 .448	10 19 .526	7 10 .700	7 14 21 1.8	53 21 0 11	69 5.8
14 John Maletis	7 1	104 14.9	24 55 .436	9 21 .429	6 9 .667	7 6 13 1.9	8 7 0 5	63 9.0
44 Chad Malone	11 4	152 13.8	24 47 .511	0 0 .000	3 7 .429	13 27 40 3.6	1 11 5 4	51 4.6
31 Chris McLaughliin	12 0	174 14.5	19 58 .328	1 11 .091	12 20 .600	7 16 23 1.9	31 19 2 8	51 4.3
54 Keith Watts	11 0	92 8.4	18 42 .429	7 14 .500	2 3 .667	5 10 15 1.4	1 5 1 0	45 4.1
45 Dave Frye	11 4	170 15.5	12 29 .414	0 3 .000	7 8 .875	9 29 38 3.5	5 7 1 6	31 2.8
41 John Hart	11 0	102 9.3	11 20 .550	0 0 .000	6 10 .600	9 20 29 2.6	6 5 1 2	28 2.5
Middlebury Totals	12	2393	330 814 .405	98 280 .350	137 189 .725	163 275 438 36.5	180 175 19 90	895 74.6
Opponents Totals	12	2400	318 678 .469	45 130 .346	243 346 .702	160 336 496 41.3	145 189 44 73	924 77.0

SCORE BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT1	OT2	TOTAL
Opponents	424	500	0	0	924
Middlebury	417	495	0	0	912

Men's Hockey

12-2-1 OVERALL (9-1-1 ECAC EAST)

NO	NAME	OVERALL GP	G	A	P	PP	SH	GW	P	PM	ECAC EAST G	A	P	CAREER G	A	P
44	John Giannacopoulos	15	8	17	25	2	0	0	1	2	5	11	16	22	37	59
21	Curt Goldman	15	10	14	24	6	0	0	4	8	5	9	14	25	25	50
15	Mark Spence	15	15	7	22	10	0	3	9	18	10	4	14	68	62	130
11	Ben Barnett	15	7	11	18	6	0	1	8	16	6	10	16	9	23	32
9	Emil Jättne	13	4	12	16	1	0	1	3	6	2	8	10	22	50	72
13	Nickolai Bobrov	15	5	9	14	2	0	1	3	6	5	6	11	19	34	53
6	Ryan Goldman	15	3	10	13	0	0	0	9	21	2	7	9	12	39	51
10	Scott Goldman	15	4	6	10	0	0	1	4	8	2	4	6	first-year		
19	David Bracken	15	6	4	10	0	0	0	8	18	5	4	9	9	15	24
18	Francois Gravel	13	2	7	9	0	0	1	5	10	2	4	6	19	28	47
23	Ross Sealfon	13	2	5	7	1	0	0	3	6	1	4	5	12	16	28
3	Eric Zink	15	3	4	7	3	0	2	7	14	3	1	4	5	10	15
5	Matt Skoglund	15	2	5	4	0	0	0	9	18	2	3	5	first-year		
14	Filip Jirousek	12	1	5	6	0	0	1	6	12	0	4	4	10	19	29
28	Ray Turner	12	3	3	6	0	1	1	2	4	2	3	5	4	4	8
34	Maxime LeBlanc	11	0	5	5	0	0	0	1	2	0	4	4	first-year		
33	Scott Curtin	4	1	2	3	0	0	1	2	4	1	1	2	first-year		
26	Darren White	6	2	0	2	1	0	0	5	20	1	0	1	first-year		
22	Brady Priest	14	2	0	2	0	0	0	2	4	1	0	1	6	2	8
12	Cam Petke	8	0	2	2	0	0	0	2	4	0	2	2	9	17	26
20	Jason Mikula	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	first-year		
2	Jeff Anastasio	9	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	4	5
Middlebury Totals		15	82	130	212	34	1	12	97	209	56	90	146	X	X	X
Opponents Totals		15	27	40	67	9	0	2	110	270	15	23	38	X	X	X

NO	NAME	GOAL TENDING GMS	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	EN	REC	CAREER MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	REC
1	Francois Bourbeau	8	454	10	1.32	156	.940	2	0	6-1-1	2767	92	1.99	832	.900	5	41-2-4
30	Chris Farion	8	446	17	2.29	147	.896	3	0	6-1	3075	101	1.97	992	.908	8	42-7-1

Women's Hockey Statistics

10-3-0 OVERALL (7-0-0 ECAC ALLIANCE)

NO	NAME	OVERALL GP	G	A	P	PP	SH	GW	P	PM	ECAC ALLIANCE G	A	P	CAREER G	A	P
16	Michelle Labbe	13	12	15	27	1	1	1	1	2	8	10	18	first-year		
2	Sylvia Ryan	13	13	9	22	2	0	3	1	2	9	7	16	39	31	70
17	Janice O'Neil	13	7	13	20	1	0	1	2	4	4	11	15	40	39	79
11	Catherine Pullins	12	11	7	18	2	0	1	1	2	8	6	14	22	26	48
15	Sarah Carpenter	13	2	8	10	1	0	1	2	4	2	5	7	first-year		
25	Christa McDougall	13	6	3	9	0	1	1	7	14	5	2	7	22	19	41
27	Kelly Hase	13	5	4	9	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	7	10	8	18
22	Lara Goff	7	1	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	28	34	62
20	Rebecca Sama	13	0	6	6	0	0	0	2	4	0	3	3	1	17	18
4	Stephanie Hill	13	1	5	6	0	0	0	2	4	1	3	4	8	22	30
21	Sarah Hall	13	0	3	3	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	2	4	5	9
7	Megan Maloney	7	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5	8	13
5	Katie Lynch	11	1	1	2	0	0	1	2	4	1	1	2	first-year		
24	Suzanne Chepren	13	1	1	2	0	0	0	2	4	1	1	2	7	23	30
23	Sarah Cotton	9	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	16	8	24
19	Elissa Burnell	11	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	6	0	1	1	first-year		
10	Jennifer Bahnson	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	first-year		
Middlebury Totals		13	64	81	145	7	2	10	26	52	46	59	105	X	X	X
Opponents Totals		13	24	36	60	1	1	3	34	68	7	10	17	X	X	X

NO	NAME	GOAL TENDING GMS	MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	EN	REC	CAREER MIN	GA	GAA	SVS	SV%	SO	REC
30	Beth Denoncourt	7	420	18	2.57	156	.897	1	0	4-3	905	34	2.25	240	.876	1	11-5
1	Kristin Hackmann	6	360	6	1.00	41	.872	1	0	6-0	1222	22	1.08	125	.850	6	16-0

Captain's Corner
Men's Swimming

By J.P. Gowdy
and
Dave Scopp

It has been an epic year thus far for the Middlebury men's swimming and diving team. Fresh off an upset victory over the Dutchmen of Union College and the Exotic/Erotic Beach Party with our lovely ladies, we're stoked to swim like Cartman at New Englands. New head coach Peter Solomon has brought an infectiously positive attitude and total commitment to the team; he can't wait to shave his head at New Englands.

With the arrival of our first-years, we are hoping for our best season ever. John "Screech Around" Robertson and his amazing afro are tooling all comers in the distance events. Despite his constant and relentless badgering of the women's team, the ladies still can't resist his blinding Euro-suits and his irresistible humming in the bathrooms.

With the help of his best friend, Jim, William "Gollum" Allen has given us superior strength in the 50- and 100-meter freestyle events as well as made many friends with the women's team. Officer Adam "Captain Nimoy" Nadeau is a great asset in the butterfly events and enjoys searching for pearls in his free time.

Jon Cheesefoot is a superb diver and has completely gone off the deep end for us. Alex "Sparky" Klose may be the best breaststroker in all of New England, but sometimes he forgets which breasts to stroke. Keep an eye out for the release of his new book, "Alcohol and Me." It's a stunner.

The already impressive sophomore class is now relentless with the addition of Michael "Deputy" Duff. After taking a year off to train for the World's Strongest Man competition, Duff is back to enforce the law. Mike "MOOOOOOOOOSE!" Cocchiaro goes the distance and provides the men with a fantastic liasion to the women's team. Ben Stizzucker is so beefcake he can't even get in the pool. He also gets box lunches for all of our away meets.

Frank "Norwegian Seal" Pandolfe is a stud. Don't let him tell you otherwise. In fact, if you see him around campus, tell him he's a stud. Ian "Tulio" Doherty is truly *en fuego* in every sense of the word. Dave Shomaker, aka "The Great White Hype," is busting out moves that dazzle the competition as well as our women. Aside from filling in for the Lucky Charms leprechaun when needed, Matt "Fury" Fiorentino is a very big breaststroker.

The junior class continues to impress us in every way. Geoff "Ron Jon" Silvius has been HUNTING for his best season ever. Mike "Double D-Cup" Larsen returned after a summer of pumping iron more than ready for the distance events. Diving Captain Will Peters, after recovering from back injuries sustained from a weekend visit to Northern Mass., has been blowing the competition away with the help of his new dive, "the will-mill." The man, the myth, the international sex god — Adam Sobek continues his winning ways in and out of the pool.

The senior class has been upholding the old school traditions of the days of the Brown Pool. Chris "Grandpa" Beal was forced to move off campus this year to live in an active adult community. Despite being older than our country, Beal has managed to remain the prettiest member of the men's team. Matt "K-Dog" Kading has spent most of his time this year attempting to orient the freshmen women, and is having the best season of his career after learning the competitive secrets of hot showers. We think Lawrence (Larry to his friends) Klein has been swimming amazingly well, when actually sighted.

Captains Dave Scopp, J.P. Gowdy and Will Peters are pretty much the studs of the team and can't wait to lead the team into our championship season.

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Basketball vs Amherst Jan. 30 @ 7:00
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The Campus **Sports**

Women's Winter Sports
Hockey at Yale Feb. 4 @ 4:00
Basketball at Amherst Jan. 30 @ 7:30
Swimming vs. Williams Jan. 31 @ 2:00

January 28, 1998

Men's hockey pummels rivals in series of wins

By Jennifer DeLeonardo
Sports Editor

Busy and wildly successful are appropriate words to describe the Men's Ice Hockey team during the past two weeks. Over the span of their last five games, 16 different players have combined to score 34 goals, while the Panther defense and goaltenders have held their opponents to only two goals. The team has so far extended their unbeaten streak to twelve games.

Men's Hockey

Friday, January 16th

Middlebury	7
Williams	0

Sunday, January 24th

Middlebury	7
Trinity	0

On January 16, the Panthers blanked rival Williams 7-0 in front of an enthusiastic home crowd. The Ephs were ranked third in the NCAA Division III East Poll at the time. Middlebury was ranked fourth. Despite the ranking, the Panthers showed Williams who really owned the ice by assaulting the visitor's goal with 43 shots over the course of the game, compared to Williams paltry 18 attempts, which were denied by Panther goaltender Chris Farion '98 on his way to his seventh career shutout.

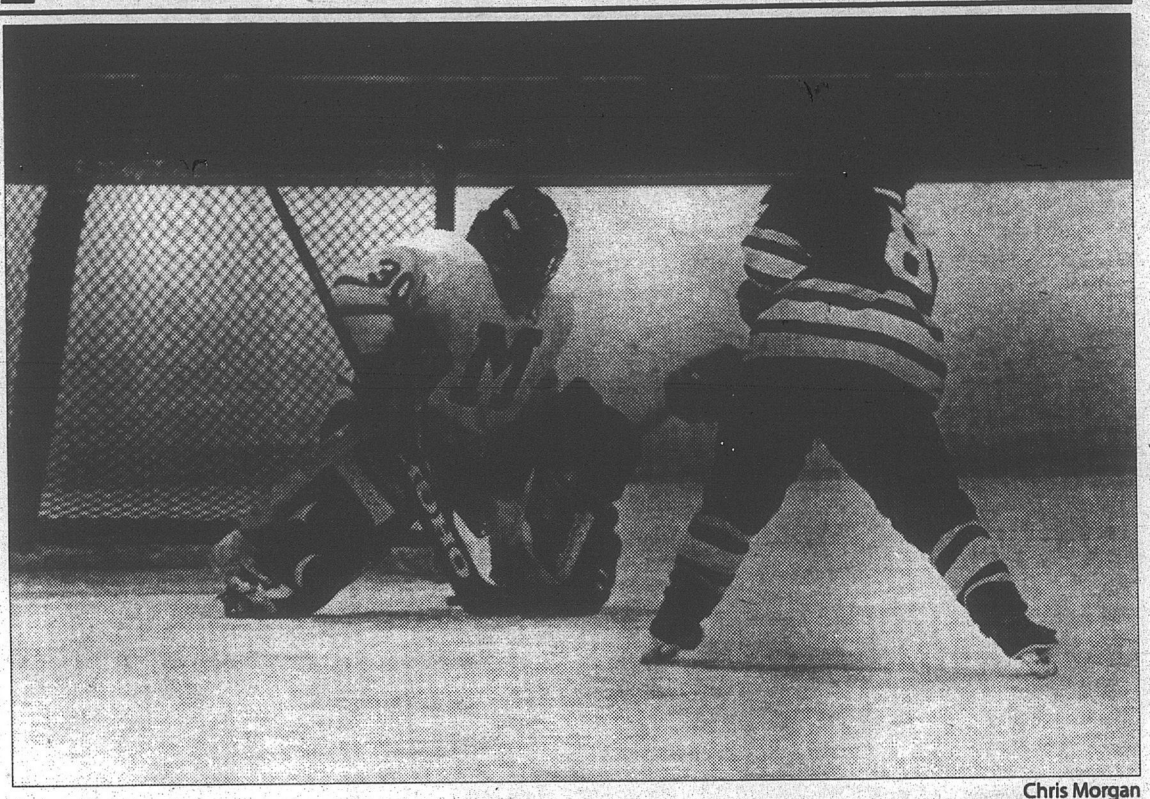
Middlebury dominated from the begining, with Nickolai Bobrov '99 scoring what turned out to be the winning goal with just 2:18 left in the first period. He was assisted by a pair of Goldmans, Scott '01 and Curt '00. Ross Sealfon continued the domination with a goal assisted by Matt Skoglund '01 and Ryan Goldman '98 less than a minute later. The rest of the first period was scoreless for both teams, with the Eph goaltender denying 15 Panther shots.

The second period netted two more goals, first from Scott Goldman assisted by Bobrov at 5:16 into the period. First-year Matt Skoglund took advantage of a Williams penalty for hooking to send in his first collegiate goal, assisted by Curt Goldman and Ray Turner '00.

In the third period, Middlebury virutally ran away with the game, scoring three goals to increase the tally to seven and allowing only two Williams shots. Brady Priest '99 was assisted by Cam Petke '99 and Gravel for a goal.

This was followed by two power play goals wherein Curt Goldman and Ben Barnett '00 capitalized on the frustration of the Williams team. The Ephs drew seven penalties and changed their goaltender in the final minutes of the third period.

The Panthers faced Hamilton the day after the victory over the Ephs. Displaying no fatigue from the previous night, they came out firing on the opponent's goaltender, taking 48 shots in the 5-0 win.



Chris Morgan
Chris Farion '98 denies a break-away goal in Middlebury's 7-0 shutout over ECAC rival Williams on January 16.

Power plays and solid defense and offense that allowed only 14 Hamilton shots were key to that win. Four of the five Middlebury goals were scored on power plays, the first coming from Barnett at the 8:25 mark in the first period. This was followed by an unassisted goal from David Bracken '00 38 seconds later. Barnett finished off the period with yet another power play goal. The second period netted goals from Mark Spence '98 and Giannacopoulos, resulting in a final score of 5-0.

After their two shutouts, the Panthers left the comfort of Nelson Arena to face some challenges on the road. Potsdam proved to be a bit more of a contest for the Panthers. They came out ready to fight after losing to the Panthers 9-1 earlier in the season. Potsdam held Middlebury to just one goal in the first period, scored Giannacopoulos, unassisted, at the 13:40 mark.

Although Middlebury stepped it up in the second period, taking 17 shots to Potsdam's eight, neither team scored early in that period. Potsdam finally broke through at the 14:47 mark to tie up the score. Middlebury's Curt Goldman answered back twenty seconds later, assisted by his brother Ryan, to take back the lead. Unfortunately, Potsdam's Sean Darke scored again less than thirty seconds later, and Middlebury left the ice in a tie, 2-2.

The Panthers are not a team to get discouraged, nor are they one to get beaten. Three goals in the middle of the third period and a defense which held Potsdam to three shots took care of the situation. Emil Jattne took back the lead at 9:13, assisted by Spence and Sealfon.

Four minutes later, Curt Goldman scored his second goal of the game on a power play to give the Panthers some insurance. Jason Mikula added a final goal, the first of his Middlebury career, on the power play, to give the game a final score of 5-2.

Farion stopped a total of 19 Potsdam shots, contributing greatly to the win.

From Potsdam it was onto Middletown, Connecticut, for a game against Wesleyan University. The Panthers have consistently defeated Wesleyan in all of the 21 matches played against them since 1973. The Panthers kept the streak going as they blanked their foes 10-0, sending an onslaught of 47 shots at the Wesleyan goaltender. Middlebury also displayed their depth, with the ten goal coming from eight individual players.

The Panthers started early, with Gravel starting off the scoring 2:52 into the first period. This early goal was followed by three more in the first period, from Bracken, Skoglund, and Scott Goldman.

The second period started out similarly, with Gravel again scoring three minutes into the period. Tallies from Curt Goldman and Jattne were close behind to end the second period with a 7-0 score.

The third period resulted in three more goals, coming from Giannacopoulos, Bobrov, and another from Curt Goldman.

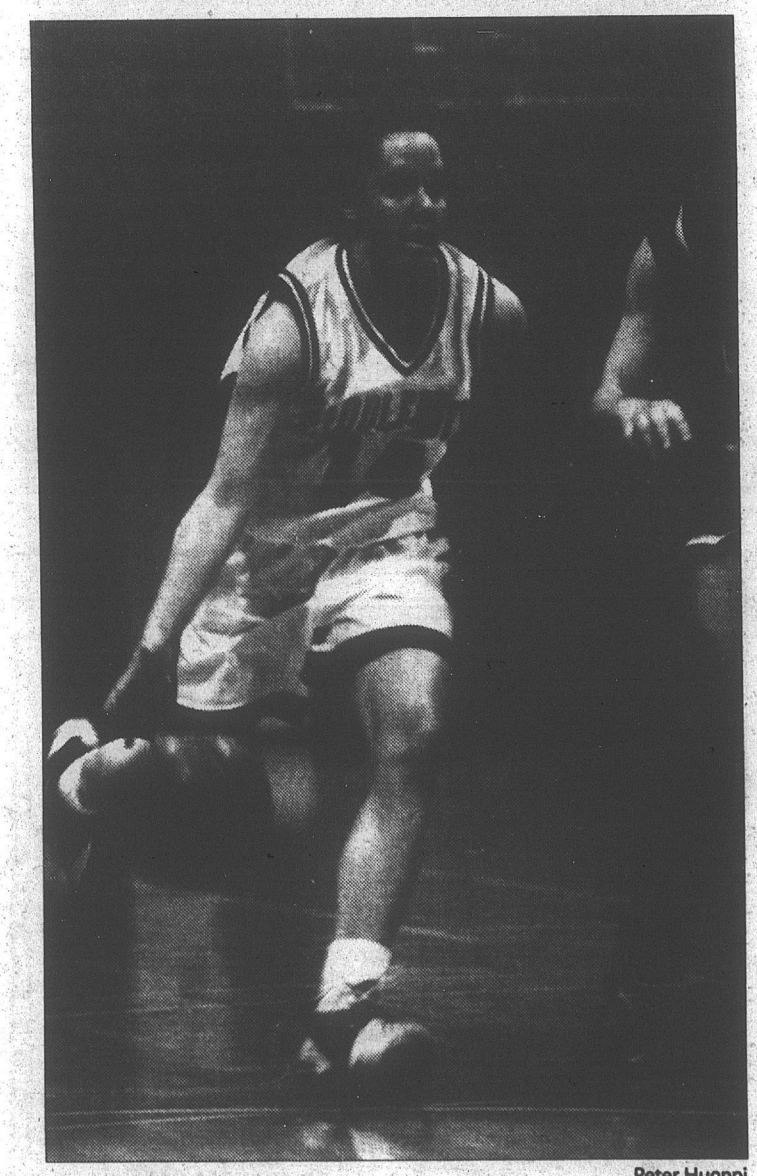
Ryan Goldman, Skoglund and Giannacopoulos each had two assists, while Jattne, Gravel, Barnett, Turner, Max LeBlanc, Spence, Bobrov, Curt Goldman and Jeff Anastasio '99 each contributed one. Goalie Francois Bourbeau '98 made eighteen saves to preserve the shutout.

On their way home Sunday afternoon, Middlebury met Trinity, playing to another 7-0 win after torturing another goaltender by invading the net area with 49 shots..

Eric Zinc '00 showed he was on for the day as he scored the first goal of the contest unassisted. He went on to score another in the

(see Hockey, page 26)

Women's basketball intensifies their game



Peter Huoppi
Dawn Trowbridge '00 dribbles downcourt amidst pressure from Williams.

By Scott Cacciola
Staff Writer

With aspirations of NCAA glory tucked unobtrusively in their back pockets, the Middlebury College women's basketball team keeps churning out their regular-season victories. Having steadily improved this season, both on the court and in national rankings, the determined Panthers last week made short work of Colby-Sawyer College before dismissing NESCAC rival Williams College from Pepin Gymnasium with a humbling defeat.

Women's Basketball

Sunday, January 18th

Middlebury	82
Colby-Sawyer	53

Tuesday, January 20th

Middlebury	86
Williams	72

Simply stated, Colby-Sawyer was severely outmatched on January 18. Middlebury dominated the game in all aspects of play, cruising to an 82-53 win. Each player contributed to the victory, and younger players gained valuable experience. The high-powered offense was fueled once again by balanced scoring, both inside and outside. Sophomore guard Dawn Trowbridge led the way with 14 points. Fellow back-court mates Heather Langlois '00 and Lauren Brown '98 pumped in 12 apiece. Chrissy Peterson '99 also scored 12 points, while ripping down a team-high 12 boards. First-year Kristy Laramee was dominant underneath, snagging eight rebounds for the victorious Panthers.

When it all came down to it, the Panthers knew that their game against Colby-Sawyer was little more than a warm-up for their highly anticipated match against Williams on January 20. While Williams carried a lofty 9-1 record and high regional rankings into the game, Middlebury brought an 8-1 record and a burning desire for victory.

The Panthers were able to carry a 36-31 edge into the locker room at halftime. Led by junior guard Kathleen Higgins, the Ephs kept the game tight for much of the second half. Higgins scorched the Middlebury defense for 22 points, on 10 of 15 shooting from the field. But it wasn't enough. With a little more than two minutes remaining, the Panthers extended their lead and Williams was forced to foul. The Pan-

(see Basketball, page 21)